

## WAR

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# STARS AND STRIPES®

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50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

# Racism in the ranks

## Recent cases highlight reach of white extremism into US military

By DAN LAMOTHE AND SQUAD MEKHENNET  
The Washington Post

**A**s Ohio National Guard soldiers were dispatched to help quell unrest in Washington, D.C., one was keeping a secret from his commanders: He had frequently espoused neo-Nazi

views among like-minded friends.

Pfc. Shandon Simpson had participated in a white supremacist channel on the Telegram messaging app called RapeWaffen Division, according to the SITE Intelligence Group. The channel's members have touted the rape of female police officers, posted images with

Confederate battle flags and swastikas and called white women who have children with men of other races "traitors."

On Twitter, Simpson tried to recruit fascists to join him in a new group, used an image of Nazi Party leader Richard Walther Darr as his

SEE RANKS ON PAGE 6

District of Columbia National Guard members stand ready as demonstrators gather to protest the death of George Floyd near the White House on June 1.

Alex Brandon / AP

## Bill introduced to improve troops' access to mental health care

By NIKKI WENTLING  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Over the past two years, Patrick and Teri Caserta have tried to create a positive legacy for their son, a 21-year-old sailor who died by suicide June 25, 2018, after throwing himself into the spinning tail rotor of a MH-60E helicopter at Naval Station Norfolk, Va.

A command investigation into



Caserta

Brandon Caserta's death determined that belligerent and brash leadership of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 28 contributed to his decision to end his own life. He felt alone, stuck and afraid of retaliation, his parents said.

After fighting the Navy for accountability and urging Congress to make changes, the Casertas are finally seeing progress.

On Thursday, the two-year anniversary of Brandon Caserta's death,

Rep. Seth Moulton, D-Mass., introduced a bill in his name: the Brandon Act. The underlying goal is to create a pathway for service members to seek mental health care in confidence, without disclosing it to their command. It would create a safe word that, when said, would trigger an immediate, confidential mental health evaluation.

"Brandon tasked us with doing something like this, in his final letter

to us," Teri Caserta said. "Brandon's legacy is to save lives. The rest of our lives will be focused on that, too."

The suicide note from their son prompted the Casertas to seek the help of Congress. They were novices at lobbying and unaware of what went into creating a bill, but they set out on a cross-country road trip from their home in Peoria, Ariz., to Washington

SEE ACCESS ON PAGE 5

# BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Facebook to label all rule-breaking posts

By BARBARA ORTUTAY  
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Facebook said Friday that it will flag all “newsworthy” posts from politicians who break its rules, including those from President Donald Trump.

CEO Mark Zuckerberg had previously refused to take action against Trump posts suggesting that mail-in ballots will lead to voter fraud, saying that people deserved to hear unedited state-

ments from political leaders. Twitter, by contrast, slapped a “get the facts” label on them.

Until Friday, Trump’s posts with identical wording to those labeled on Twitter remained untouched on Facebook, sparking criticism from his opponents as well as current and former Facebook employees. Now Facebook is all but certain to face off with the president the next time he posts something the company deems to be violating its rules.

“The policies we’re implement-

ing today are designed to address the reality of the challenges our country is facing and how they’re showing up across our community,” Zuckerberg wrote on his Facebook page announcing the changes.

Zuckerberg said the social network is taking steps to counter election-related misinformation. In particular, Facebook will begin adding new labels to all posts about voting that will direct users to authoritative information from state and local election officials.

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (June 29).....	\$1.10
Dollar buys (June 29).....	€0.8680
British pound (June 29).....	\$1.21
Japanese yen (June 29).....	104.00
South Korean won (June 29).....	1,168.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar).....	0.3776
British pound.....	\$1.2343
Canada (Dollar).....	1.3557
China (Yuan).....	7.0784
Denmark (Krone).....	6.6386
Egypt (Pound).....	16.1606
Hong Kong (Dollar).....	\$1.1227/0.8907
Hungary (Forint).....	7.7504
India (Rupee).....	316.46
Israel (Shekel).....	3.4311
Japan (Yen).....	107.19
Kuwait (Dinar).....	0.3078
Norway (Krone).....	9.7152
Philippines (Peso).....	49.95
Poland (Zloty).....	3.98
Saudi Arabia (Riyal).....	3.7513
Singapore (Dollar).....	1.3931
South Korea (Won).....	1,203.78

Switzerland (Franc).....	0.9475
Thailand (Baht).....	30.91
Turkey (Lira).....	6.8550

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate.....	3.25
Discount rate.....	0.25
Federal funds market rate.....	0.08
3-month bill.....	0.14
30-year bond.....	1.37

## WEATHER OUTLOOK

### MONDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



### MONDAY IN EUROPE



### TUESDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

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## PACIFIC

# Report: Missteps in Roosevelt virus response

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS  
Stars and Stripes

A deeper dive into the coronavirus outbreak aboard the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt in March found missteps by senior commanders exacerbated conditions on the warship, according to a monthlong investigation by the Navy.

Those findings prompted Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday to reverse his recommendation in late April to reinstate Capt. Brett Crozier, the carrier's former commander, Gilday told reporters June 19. He ordered the investigation after then-acting Secretary of the Navy Thomas Modly relieved Crozier of command April 2.

"Had I known then what I know today, I would have not made that recommendation to reinstate Capt. Crozier," Gilday said. "Moreover, if Capt. Crozier were still in command today, I would be relieving him."

Crozier was at the helm when the Roosevelt diverted to Guam on March 26 after several sailors tested positive for the coronavirus. He was later removed from command after a letter he emailed to his Navy superiors pleading for help surfaced in the San Francisco Chronicle soon after. The ship remained in Guam two more months as sailors were isolated, tested and treated.

Ultimately, more than 1,150 Roosevelt sailors tested positive, one of whom died.

Adm. Robert Burke, until June 8 the vice chief of naval operations, conducted the investigation, whose results were released June 20.

## Outbreak begins

On March 8, as the Roosevelt wrapped up a port visit to Da Nang, Vietnam, the U.S. Embassy there informed the Roosevelt and its strike group that 39 sailors had been to a hotel where two guests had tested positive for the virus. The carrier left Da Nang the next day.

Those sailors were quarantined, and crews began a "bleach-a-palooza" campaign with twice-daily workspace cleanings, according to the report. Daily announcements also reminded crews to "wash their hands, maintain social distance and avoid face touching," according to the report.

However, common areas and activities such as gyms, the ship store, library and chapel services remained open despite concerns of coronavirus exposure, the report said. In the galleys, self-service buffets were discontinued, but salad bars were allowed.

Social distancing measures were not enforced, the investigation found.

"Specifically, no seats were removed, lines continued to form without six feet of separation between sailors and condiments were available for common use," the report said.



DALTON REIDHEAD/U.S. Navy

The aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt is seen from the USS Nimitz during dual-carrier training in the Philippine Sea on Tuesday.

Even when the Navy issued guidance March 12 that required 6 feet between individuals when possible and discouraged mass gatherings, "social distancing was not observed on the way to Guam," the carrier's next port visit, scheduled for April 3, according to the report.

Crozier believed the March 12 guidance did not apply very well to deployed aircraft carriers, the report said.

The first coronavirus cases appeared aboard the Roosevelt on March 24. Three sailors tested positive: two from the carrier's air wing and one from the nuclear reactor department. The ship put on steam and reached Guam on March 27, earlier than planned.

## 'Scattered' goals

Meanwhile, Navy leaders from Modly down to Rear Adm. Stuart Baker, who was aboard the carrier as commander of the Roosevelt Strike Group, became increasingly involved in response plans, according to the report.

On March 25, Baker asked the 7th Fleet for 4,000 rooms to isolate sailors for two weeks, it said.

That "was not an option," Baker was told, because Modly publicly

stated none of the crew would be allowed to leave the pier, according to the report.

By the time the ship reached Guam, 33 sailors had tested positive and "the goal became scattered," the report said. Pacific Fleet prioritized testing all sailors, 7th Fleet wanted sailors to disembark and Crozier wanted single rooms for each crewmember.

One day after the ship's arrival, 46 sailors had become infected, and Crozier believed quarantining sailors aboard the ship "was only making the problem worse," the report said. Meanwhile, there was "true human suffering" in the carrier's cramped aft berthing as more sailors required quarantine.

But when cots were made available in warehouses and store-rooms ashore, Crozier turned them down because they "were not single occupancy," and thousands of sailors remained on board, according to the report.

Gilday on June 19 told reporters that Crozier's "determination that onboard quarantine was ineffective should have led to an acceleration of sailors to ashore accommodations. It did not."

Instead, Crozier on March 30 emailed his letter to Pacific Fleet,

Naval Air Forces Pacific and the strike group. Crozier described the letter as a "red flare," but did not intend for it to be given to the press, the report said.

Crozier "stated that his intent in sending the letter was to stop the administrative bureaucracy and bring focus back to what he thought was the best course of action to get people off the ship," the report said.

Ultimately, Pacific Fleet, 7th Fleet and the strike group said the letter "did not increase support" for the ship. Pacific Fleet said that was "because we had already been examining all options to get sailors off the ship safely," according to the report.

The San Francisco Chronicle published the letter on April 1, and Modly relieved Crozier from command the following day for "loss of confidence."

Modly ultimately resigned following backlash from sailors, the public and Congress for his decision, along with a recording of Modly calling Crozier "stupid" during a speech April 6 aboard the Roosevelt.

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ZACHARY WHEELER/U.S. Navy

An F-18F Super Hornet assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron 154 flies over the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt in the Philippine Sea, on June 17.

# US Forces Korea eases anti-virus restrictions for Yongsan

Stars and Stripes

YONGSAN GARRISON, South Korea — The U.S. military said Saturday that it will ease anti-coronavirus restrictions for troops and other personnel on this Army garrison in Seoul, but unauthorized travel to the capital from other bases remains prohibited.

The move, which begins at noon Monday, came more than a month

after U.S. Forces Korea lifted restrictions for bases elsewhere in South Korea but maintained them for Yongsan because of continued cluster infections there.

USFK cited "the continued low numbers of confirmed COVID-19 cases within Yongsan district," for its decision to lower the health alert level from "Charlie" to " Bravo" for the area in central Seoul.

Some small bases elsewhere in

the metropolitan area, which the military calls Area II (+), remain at "Charlie," it said.

That means personnel may go to restaurants, hair salons, child care facilities, gyms and other off-base establishments in Yongsan for the first time in months, but only if they live in the area.

"Leisure travel to Area II plus remains prohibited for everyone else, while official and necessary duties remain authorized," USFK

sponsored Col. Lee Peters said in a video announcement.

The rest of the city will remain off-limits. The ban on bars and other adults-only establishments also has been extended for USFK personnel nationwide.

Garrison officials said there will be no change to gate closures due to limited access and health check procedures.

Bars and other adults-only establishments are still banned for

USFK personnel nationwide.

People should continue to take precautions, including maintaining a social distance of 6 feet and wearing masks when that's not possible, USFK said.

South Korea has seen an uptick in coronavirus cases in recent weeks after dropping to single digits, but the numbers have largely hovered at around 50 per day including local and imported infections.



## MILITARY

# Team finds remains from '52 crash in glacier

By MARK THIESSEN

Associated Press

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — A lucky Buddha figurine, a flight suit, several 3-cent stamps, a crumpled 1952 Mass schedule for St. Patrick's Church in Washington, D.C., and 480 bags containing individual human remains.

Those were among the items recovered this month from Alaska's Colony Glacier, where an annual somber search continues for human remains and debris after a military plane crashed 67 years ago, officials said Friday.

The goal is to identify and return remains from everyone onboard the C-124 Globemaster, which smashed into Mount Gannett north of Anchorage on Nov. 22, 1952, killing all 41 passengers and 11 crew members, military officials said Friday at a news conference at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage.

The remains of those killed weren't retrieved at the time, and the plane and all it held slowly fell to the bottom of the mountain, where it eventually became part of Colony Glacier.

The crash was virtually forgotten until a military training mission spotted a yellow life raft on the glacier. Efforts began in 2012 to scour the glacier to see what else may have turned up, including human remains.

Now, the race is on to identify as many service members as possible before the glacier dumps the wreckage into Lake George, which will become a final resting place for everything that isn't saved.

So far, remains have been identified for all but nine of those on board the flight from McChord Air Force Base in Washington state to Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage.

Capt. Shelby Yoakum, chief of the Readiness and Plans Division at Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operation at Dover Air Force Base, led this year's three-week recovery effort at the glacier.

She said they might have only several more years of searching the glacier before the debris field calves into the lake.

"I think we can all safely say that there are still remains out there that have yet to melt out of the ice, and that we will be back for it the next few years to continue this mission, especially since we have not identified all 52 that passed away," Yoakum said.

The last area where they found remains this year was about 656 feet from the toe of the glacier, where the ice falls into the lake. Officials could not say when all the remains and debris from the glacier would be in Lake George.

"The reality of the situation is all of the debris and the remains are constantly fall-



JONATHAN VALDES MONTUO, U.S. Air Force/AP

Crash recovery team personnel assigned to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, search for remains at the site of a 1952 military plane crash on Colony Glacier, Alaska, on June 18.



PHOTOS BY MARK THIESSEN/AP

**Left: Air Force Capt. Shelby Yoakum shows a lucky Buddha figurine Friday that was found when military personnel scoured Alaska's Colony Glacier.**

**Right: Three-cent stamps were among items found.**



ing to crevasses, big and small, and moving down to the toe of the glacier faster than some," said Army Staff Sgt. Isaac Redmond, who was the mountaineering subject matter expert for the excavation.

The human remains will be respectfully shipped to Dover in transfer cases, about the same size as caskets, and draped with flags. At Dover, the process will begin to match DNA from the remains to samples that surviving family members have provided at the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory.

It's not known how many of the nine service members who have not had matches yet could be among these remains or how long it might take to get results.

"We're hopeful that we'll at least get a couple of new IDs out of this," said Katherine Grosso, a medicolegal investigator with the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System. "There will always be reassociated remains from previously identified service members, and so we'll be able to provide those, as well, to the families."

Tonja Anderson-Dell of Tampa, Fla., con-

tinues to lobby for the families of the nine service members whose remains haven't been found, even after her own journey had closure.

For years, she waited for the military to identify the remains of her grandfather, Isaac Anderson, who was 21 when the plane went down.

After years of attending services for others whose loved ones were on the plane and laid to rest, she received word her grandfather's remains had been found. A memorial service was held the following May.

## Remains of 6 service members in Korean War going to US

By MATTHEW KEELER

Stars and Stripes

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea — The remains of six service members who fought and died under the United Nations Command during the Korean War left South Korea for Hawaii following a repatriation ceremony Friday at Osan Air Base.

Service members from the United States, the Philippines and Thailand formed the U.N. honor guard that carried the single

casket, draped with a U.N. flag, holding all the remains. The casket was loaded onto a chartered Boeing 747 bound for Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

Canadian Armed Forces Maj. Susan Magill, a U.N. spokeswoman, told Stars and Stripes that authorities are fairly certain the remains are U.S. service members based on where they were found and the battles that took place there. Recovered artifacts were also used in that determination.

Army Gen. Robert Abrams, head of U.N. Command, was among about 50 service members from U.S. and South Korea forces at the quiet ceremony as the six began their journey home after 67 years.

"Although separated from their countrymen, they were never forgotten," said U.N. Command Chaplain (Col.) David Bowlus during his prayer. "Although once lost, now they are found. May their return bring peace to all who have prayed, and waited,

and hoped for this day."

The flight was expected to make one stop in Japan where the crew was to replace the U.N. flag with a U.S. flag before arriving on American soil.

Recovered during searches by South Korea's Ministry of National Defense Agency for KIA Recovery and Identification, also known as MAKRI, the remains will be received by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency in Hawaii to begin the identification process.

The DPAA reports more than 7,500 U.S. personnel from the Korean War are unaccounted for, with roughly 5,300 of them believed lost in North Korea.

Another repatriation ceremony is scheduled for the service members once they are received in the United States, marking the end of a series of events commemorating the start of the Korean War on June 25, 1950.

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## MILITARY

# Pacific tensions flare over island-naming spat

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE  
AND AYA ICHIHASHI  
*Stars and Stripes*

**CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa** — A naming controversy over the contested, uninhabited Senkaku Islands has ramped up tensions between Japan, China and Taiwan in the East China Sea.

On Monday, the Ishigaki city assembly in Okinawa prefecture voted to change the addresses of the chain's five main islands to include the name "Senkaku." Officials said the change, which takes effect Oct. 1, removes redundancies and other addresses within the city.

The Senkakus are administered by Japan, but claimed by

China and Taiwan, which refer to them as Diaoyu Dao and Diayoutai, respectively.

"This is a simple administrative procedure by a local government," Ishigaki Mayor Yoshitaka Nakayama said in a statement Monday. "To differentiate between the Tonoshiro district on Ishigaki Island, we decided to change the Senkaku Islands' address from 'Aza Tonoshiro, Ishigaki City' to 'Tonoshiro Senkaku, Ishigaki City,' instead." Beijing responded by naming 50 underwater geological features around the islands, according to Japanese broadcaster NHK.

"Japan's adoption of the so-called name-changing bill is serious provocation against China's

territorial sovereignty, which is illegal, null and void," Zhao Lijian, a spokesman for China's Foreign Ministry, said Monday.

"It cannot change the fact whatsoever that Diaoyu Dao belongs to China," he added. "We firmly oppose this move taken by Japan."

Taiwan also pushed back, saying it is not "conducive to regional peace and stability," Kyodo News reported Monday. The local council in Yilan County then changed the name of Ootsuri Island, which Taiwan previously called Diayoutai, to Toucheng Diayoutai, to reflect the name of a local township.

Ishigaki's mayor later took to Twitter to clarify the decision.

"The name change is to improve

the efficiency of administrative work and not to claim ownership, once again," Nakayama wrote.

In Japan, the islands require addresses because Japanese citizens can set their family registry to anywhere within Japanese territory, by law, even if they do not live there, an Ishigaki spokesman said Wednesday.

As of May 2020, there were 48 families registered within the five uninhabited islands, with 76 people registering their personal domiciles there.

Zhao said that China has protested the move through diplomatic channels.

"We reserve the right to make further responses," he said.

Tokyo deflected responsibility

for the name change.

"It is not our place to comment on a local mayor changing the name of the district after getting an approval from the local assembly," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told reporters Monday, according to the Mainichi newspaper.

The United States has long declined to take a position on the islands' sovereignty. Presidents Barack Obama and Donald Trump, however, have both declared that the Senkakus fall under the U.S.-Japan security alliance.

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## Access: Sailor urged family to expose problems with unit in suicide note

### FROM FRONT PAGE

to give it a try.

For one week last year, they walked through the Senate and House office buildings, meeting with any lawmaker or staff member they could. They told the story of their son and what stood in his way of getting help. He feared retaliation from his command.

Sen. Kirstin Gillibrand, D-N.Y., was one of those lawmakers. She pushed up Caserta's case during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing in December that focused on suicide prevention. At the time, she urged military leaders to alter a policy that requires mental health professionals to report many service members' mental health concerns to a commander, arguing it "creates mistrust and acts as a barrier to treatment."

"Brandon Caserta felt so unhappy and felt so hopeless," Gillibrand said during the hearing. "He faced personal setbacks, combined with daily abuse from his superiors and little hope that anything would change."

In response, Capt. Michael Colston, director for mental health programs in the Pentagon's health services policy and oversight office, said the Navy has a zero-tolerance policy for hazing and bullying and "to the extent they happen, they're leadership failures."

It was a small but powerful moment for the Casertas — the first time anyone in the Navy had admitted failure regarding their son's case.

A more powerful moment came Wednesday, when they learned the Brandon Act would be introduced. Work on the bill had been delayed during the coronavirus pandemic, and the Casertas weren't expecting legislation until later in 2020.

"We were shocked," Patrick Caserta said over the phone Thursday morning. "It's a great start in the right direction. We believe it meets the criteria to help people immediately."

Brandon Caserta was one of

325 active-duty service members who died by suicide in 2018, and one of 68 sailors, according to military data. Less than half, or 44.6%, of troops who died by suicide that year had a documented behavioral health diagnosis, according to a report the Pentagon released in April.

The Brandon Act creates a system modeled off the process available to victims of sexual assault, which would allow service members who experience mental health issues to receive care without notifying their command or opening an official investigation of any allegations they raise. The Casertas feel the change would help reduce the perceived barriers of self-reporting for mental health evaluations and ease service members' path to care.

It was uncertain Thursday whether the Senate would follow with its own version of the bill. The Casertas have been in talks with several senators, including Gillibrand and Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va.

A summary of the House bill, shared by Moulton's office, says Brandon Caserta tried to find help "but was unable to get the treatment he wanted."

"Had he not encountered multiple barriers to the access of mental health services — including the stigma of self-reporting — he would likely be here today," the summary states.

Brandon Caserta — described by his parents as a friendly and caring person who always looked out for his friends — joined the military after high school. Patrick Caserta, who had a 22-year Navy career, unsuccessfully advised him against it.

"He wanted to be a SEAL," Patrick Caserta said. "He was so adamant about it ... there was nothing we could do. It was the right thing to support him."

Caserta, though, had to drop out of special warfare training after he broke his tibia in SEAL selection.

While in Norfolk, where he was an aircrew aviation electrician's

mate striker, Caserta was under the command of a lead petty officer who demeaned him and other members of his unit and frequently cursed at them.

Despite the toxic leadership, Caserta's evaluation reports indicate he was a "proven self-starter" who required minimal supervision and consistently strove to achieve personal goals.

"Airman Caserta is a dedicated individual who shows great ability and initiative," one of his evaluations from 2017 reads. "Highly recommended for retention and advancement."

Caserta wanted out of his command, but another injury — a broken collarbone — blocked his efforts to be designated an aircrewman and make a transfer. On June 22, 2018, Caserta was recommended to a disciplinary review board over an argument about whether he had a driver's license and could operate vehicles on the flight line.

His parents believe the factors all compounded to make Caserta feel trapped.

Brandon Caserta wrote several notes before his suicide, in which he criticized the Navy and the command of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 28. In a letter to his parents, he asked them to expose the problems with the unit and hold the wrongdoers accountable.

On June 25, 2018, Caserta went to the flight line at Naval Station Norfolk and yelled an apology to the onooking plane captain before jumping into the spinning rotor. Emergency responders declared him dead at the scene.

A command investigation, shared with Stars and Stripes, determined that "belligerence, vulgarity and brash leadership was likely a significant contributing factor" in Caserta's decision to end his life. His leading officer — whose name is redacted from the report — was verbally abusive, demeaning and created a hostile working environment, the investigation found.

On June 27, 2018, two days after



Brandon Caserta, a member of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 28 in Norfolk, Va., is shown here during his senior year of high school.

his death, Caserta's lead petty officer made derogatory remarks about him. Patrick Caserta said they'd been told the LPO had bragged about driving Caserta to suicide. A counseling record shows that the LPO was transferred June 28. The record notes, however, that the move was "not punitive" and was going to happen anyway.

In November of that year, squadron commander Duane Whitmer wrote that the lead petty officer "has been removed from his leadership position and will be held accountable for his actions."

"While I do not believe there is any single driving factor that led to

the suicide, I do believe that findings concerning the work center's leading petty officer at the time of the incident are both troubling and valid," Whitmer wrote.

Patrick and Teri Caserta believe there was no true accountability.

While they push to get the Brandon Act through Congress, the Casertas plan to keep fighting for justice for their son, too.

"We're determined to get justice for him, but we realize it's against all odds," Patrick Caserta said. "That's going to be a battle we're going to have to continue to fight, and we're prepared to do that."

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## WAR/MILITARY

# Trump denies knowledge of Russia bounties

BY LYNN BERRY  
AND ZEEK MILLER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Sunday denied that he had been briefed on reported U.S. intelligence that a Russian military intelligence unit secretly offered bounties to Taliban-linked militants for killing American troops in Afghanistan, and he appeared to minimize the allegations against Moscow.

American intelligence officials concluded months ago that Russian officials offered rewards for successful attacks on American service members last year, at a time when the U.S. and Taliban were holding talks to end the long-running war, according to The New York Times.

Trump, in a Sunday morning tweet, said “Nobody briefed or told me” or Vice Presi-

dent Mike Pence or chief of staff Mark Meadows about “the so-called attacks on our troops in Afghanistan by Russians.” “Everybody is denying it & there have not been many attacks on us,” he said.

The White House had issued a statement Saturday denying that Trump or Pence had been briefed on such intelligence. “This does not speak to the merit of the alleged intelligence but to the inaccuracy of the New York Times story erroneously suggesting that President Trump was briefed on this matter,” press secretary Kayleigh McEnany said.

Trump’s director of national intelligence, John Ratcliffe, also said neither the president nor vice president was “ever briefed on any intelligence alleged” in the Times’ report and he said the White House statement was “accurate.”

Trump’s tweet came a day after pre-

sumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden said that the report, if accurate, was a “truly shocking revelation” about the commander in chief and his failure to protect U.S. troops in Afghanistan and stand up to Russia.

Russia called the report “nonsense.”

“This unsophisticated plant clearly illustrates the low intellectual abilities of the propagandists of American intelligence, who instead of inventing something more plausible have to make up this nonsense,” the Russian Foreign Ministry said.

A Taliban spokesman said the militants “strongly reject this allegation” and are not “indebted to the beneficence of any intelligence organ or foreign country.”

The Times, citing unnamed officials familiar with the intelligence, said the findings were presented to Trump and discussed by his National Security Council in

late March. Officials developed potential responses, starting with a diplomatic complaint to Russia, but the White House was left to authorize any step, the report said.

Trump responded to Biden on Twitter, saying “Russia ate his and Obama’s lunch during their time in office.”

But it was the Obama administration, along with international allies, that suspended Russia from the Group of Eight after its unilateral annexation of Crimea from Ukraine — a move that drew widespread condemnation.

Biden criticized Trump for “his embarrassing campaign of deference and debasing himself” before Russian leader Vladimir Putin. Trump tweeted that “Nobody’s been tougher” on Russia than his administration.

## Ranks: US military has wrestled with the problem of white extremism for decades

### FROM FRONT PAGE

profile picture and marked the 75th anniversary of Adolf Hitler’s death on April 30.

“I pay respects to him as a martyr who died in Berlin completely unwilling to capitulate,” Simpson tweeted, according to the Middle East Media Research Institute, which monitors extremism online. “In loving memory of a great leader of the German people. Rest in peace, further.”

Simpson is one of several service members whose actions have come under scrutiny in recent months as the U.S. military grapples with white extremism in its ranks. The military has wrestled with the problem for decades, but the issue is receiving new attention amid a broader conversation about race and discrimination prompted in part by the death of George Floyd, a Black civilian who was killed in police custody last month.

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine announced June 5 that a guard member had been suspended for expressing white supremacist views but did not identify him. Simpson is now being processed for a separation from the military, said Stephanie Bougher, an Ohio National Guard spokeswoman. It is not clear how his actions first came to the attention of authorities, or if he will face any charges.

“Racism and prejudice has no place in our organization,” Bougher said in a statement. “Every member of the Ohio National Guard is held to a high standard of professionalism. Ohio knows and trusts its National Guard. Any threat to that public trust will not be tolerated.”

Simpson’s case has come into focus as another soldier faces serious charges. Last week, a Justice Department charged Pvt. Ethan Melzer in a plot in which

authorities said he worked with the extremist group Order of the Nine Angles in an attempt to kill fellow American soldiers abroad.

Members of the “racially motivated violent extremist group” have espoused neo-Nazi and satanic beliefs and admiration for both Hitler and Osama bin Laden, the indictment said.

Melzer, 22, of Louisville, consumed extremist propaganda online and sent messages to members of the Order of Nine Angles, or O9A, and participants of the RapeWaffen Division, the indictment said. His lawyer, Jennifer Willis, did not respond to a request for comment.

U.S. law enforcement intervened last month, charging him in an indictment that was unsealed last Monday. He told officials he intended the attack “to result in the deaths of as many of his fellow service members as possible,” according to court documents.

It is not a surprise that Melzer was a member of RapeWaffen, said Rita Katz, SITE’s executive director. Rapewaffen upholds O9A “as its central philosophy” and has described itself as having links in the United States, Canada, Russia, Australia and other countries, she said.

Simpson, who did not respond to requests for comment, posted content from RapeWaffen on his Facebook page. He also promoted a complementary group, RapeKrieg, that adheres to an even more extreme version of O9A ideology, Katz said.

Simpson, who was first identified by the nonprofit website Unicorn Riot, also raised the prospect of committing violence, stating under the pseudonym “Zoltanous HN” on June 2 that they have activated my unit and we’re getting real ammunition to shoot and kill,” according to a



MANUEL BALCE CENETA/AP

Members of the District of Columbia Army National Guard stand guard at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, on June 3, securing the area as protests continue following the death of George Floyd.

**‘Racism and prejudice has no place in our organization. Ohio knows and trusts its National Guard. Any threat to that public trust will not be tolerated.’**

Stephanie Bougher  
Ohio National Guard spokeswoman

copy of that message recovered by SITE. He added “Rahowa,” a term that is short for “racial holy war” in white supremacist channels, Katz said.

It is unclear if other members of RapeWaffen are U.S. service members, but more than one of them have claimed to be, Katz said. A general recommendation for O9A adherents is to join the armed forces to gain combat experience in anticipation of war, she added.

O9A was established in the 1970s as a Nazi-Satanist group in Britain and has promoted extreme violence for decades, influencing neo-Nazi groups on both

sides of the Atlantic, a European security official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue.

Membership estimates for O9A range from a few dozen to about 2,000, the official said. The group targets young people and sends supporters into other organizations to influence and recruit, the official said.

Another soldier, Pfc. Corwyn Storm Carver, was scrutinized last year by the Army after investigative reports raised concerns about his alleged membership in the Atomwaffen Division, an American neo-Nazi group, the

official said. Social media posts discovered in the investigation showed that Carver used hashtags for O9A and posted a picture of “the Sinister Tradition,” a book detailing O9A views.

An Army spokesman, Lt. Col. Emanuel Ortiz, said the service’s investigation did not result “in charges related to terrorism or acts of violence.” But Carver was administratively separated last August after serving just 28 months, an unusually short enlistment. The Army declined to explain the circumstances of his departure, citing personnel policies.

RapeWaffen’s founder has posted information under the username “Sinisterius” and “Sinistrovs” and repeatedly claimed that the group is a splinter of the Atomwaffen Division, said a second European security official who tracks extremist groups. The official also spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue.



## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# Young people urged to take virus seriously as numbers increase

The Washington Post

Health officials are imploring young people to wear masks and practice social distancing as coronavirus transmission among younger Americans continued to drive record outbreaks in several states.

The pleas come as governors in Texas and Florida instituted new limits on bars and alcohol consumption to stop the spread of the novel coronavirus, citing the skyrocketing number of young people who are contracting it. At the White House on Friday, Vice President Mike Pence and other members of the Trump administration's coronavirus task force, in its first briefing in weeks, urged young people to take the virus more seriously.

"Younger Americans have a particular responsibility to make sure that they're not carrying the coronavirus into settings where they would expose the most vulnerable," Pence said.

Younger coronavirus patients are a widening percentage of total coronavirus hospitalizations, with those in the 18 to 49 age group growing from about 27% of hospitalizations the week

ending March 7 to 35% last week, CDC figures show.

Officials across the country — from Ohio to Arizona — said coronavirus cases among young people were spiking as many red states that were slow to shut down in the early days of the pandemic threw their doors back open again.

In Texas on Friday, Gov. Greg Abbott, a Republican, closed bars except for delivery and take out, limited restaurant capacity to 50% and closed popular rafting and tubing businesses that drove hundreds of young people to gather on spots near New Braunfels and the Comal River. More than half of new cases in the counties that encompass Austin, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio came among the young, authorities said.

Mark Escott, Austin's medical director, said case investigation and contact tracing are challenging because people have been interacting with more people in recent weeks.

Escott said increasing numbers of young people are ending up in the ICU and on ventilators because so many are infected with

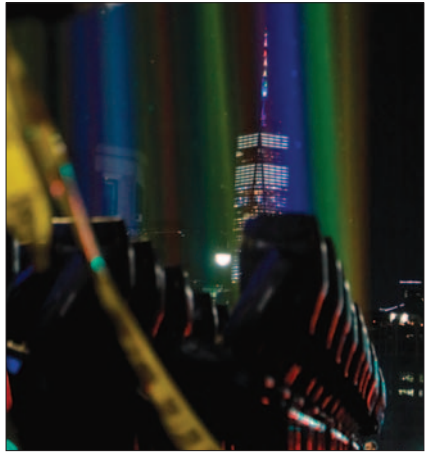
the virus. Escott said some young people will be forever changed by the virus, unable to return to a normal life or work.

"This is a devastating disease, and this is not something you want to take chances with because the impact is just so variable that it's very hard to predict who's going to do well and who is not," he said.

Tulsa health director Bruce Dart said new cases and hospitalizations are at record highs; 40% of the cases and a quarter of hospitalizations from the virus are among people ages 18 to 35.

"They're conducting themselves like it's pre-COVID, and that's not going to work anymore," Dart said. The younger cohort is "not social distancing, not wearing masks or paying attention to handwashing. These are the only tools we have to break the chain of transmission now."

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, a Republican, said last week that the state had a "real explosion" of cases among the young — including a drop in the median age of new cases from age 65 to 35.



BERETO MATHEWS/AP

## Awash with pride

One World Trade Center stands in the background, behind a rainbow light display which illuminates the night sky in the West Village near The Stonewall Inn, birthplace of the gay rights movement, Saturday in New York. The light installation was presented by Kind snack foods to mark what would have been the 50th anniversary of the NYC Pride March, which is canceled this year because of the coronavirus pandemic.

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STARS AND STRIPES

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Globally, number of confirmed cases hits 10M

Associated Press

ROME — Worldwide confirmed coronavirus infections hit the 10 million mark Sunday as voters in Poland and France went to the polls for virus-delayed elections.

New clusters of cases at a Swiss nightclub and in the central English city of Leicester showed that the virus was still circulating widely in Europe, though not with the rapidly growing infection rate seen in parts of the United States, Latin America and India.

Wearing mandatory masks, social distancing in lines and carrying their own pens to sign voting registers, French voters cast ballots in a second round of municipal elections. Poles also wore masks and used hand sanitizer, and some in virus-hit areas were told to mail in their ballots to avoid further contagion.

"I didn't go and vote the first time around because I am elderly and I got scared," said Fanny Barouh as she voted in a Paris school.

While concern in the U.S. has focused on big states like Texas, Arizona and Florida reporting thousands of new cases a day, rural states are also seeing infection surges, including in Kansas, where livestock outnumber people.

The U.S. handling of the outbreak has drawn concern from abroad. The European Union



JOEL SAGET/AP

Current socialist Paris mayor and candidate in the second round of the municipal elections Anne Hidalgo casts her ballot Sunday in Paris.

seems almost certain to bar Americans from traveling to the bloc in the short term as it draws up new travel rules.

The infection surges prompted Vice President Mike Pence to call off campaign events in Florida and Arizona, although he will still travel to those states and to Texas this week to meet with their Republican governors. Those three

governors have come under criticism for aggressively reopening their economies after virus lockdowns despite increasing infections in their states.

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar stressed that "the window is closing" for the U.S. to take action to effectively curb the coronavirus.

Azar pointed to a recent spike

in infections, particularly in the South. He says people have "to act responsibly" by social distancing and wearing face masks, especially "in these hot zones."

Speaking on NBC and CNN, Azar argued that the U.S. is in a better position than two months ago in fighting the virus because it is conducting more testing and has therapeutics available to treat

COVID-19.

But he acknowledged that hospitalizations and deaths could increase in the next few weeks.

Globally, confirmed COVID-19 cases passed the 10 million mark and confirmed deaths neared half a million, according to a tally by the Johns Hopkins University, with the U.S., Brazil, Russia and India having the most cases. The U.S. also has the highest virus death toll in the world at over 125,000.

Experts say all those figures significantly undercut the true toll, due to limited testing and missed mild cases. U.S. government experts last week estimated the U.S. alone could have had 20 million cases.

Polish voters were casting ballots for a presidential election that was supposed to have taken place in May but was chaotically postponed amid the pandemic. President Andrzej Duda, 48, a conservative, is running against 10 other candidates as he seeks a second five-year term.

French voters were choosing mayors and municipal councilors in Paris and 5,000 towns and cities in a second round of municipal elections held under strict hygiene rules.

Key battlegrounds include Paris, where the next mayor will preside over the 2024 Summer Olympics.

## Summer may decide fate of leading shots in vaccine race

By LAURAN NEERGAARD

Associated Press

People on six continents are already getting jabs in the arm as the race for a COVID-19 vaccine enters a defining summer, with even bigger studies poised to prove if any shot really works — and maybe offer a reality check.

British and Chinese researchers are already chasing the coronavirus beyond their borders, testing potential vaccines in Brazil and the United Arab Emirates because there are too few new infections at home to get clear answers.

The United States is set to open the largest trials — 30,000 people to test a government-created shot starting in July, followed about a month later with another 30,000 expected to test a British one.

Those will likely be divided among Americans and volunteers in other countries such as Brazil or South Africa. Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health told The Associated Press.

While he's optimistic, "we've been burned before," Fauci cautioned.

Multiple successes, in multiple parts of the world, are vital.

"This isn't a race of who gets there first. This is, get as many approved, safe and effective vaccines as you possibly can," Fauci said.

Vaccine experts say it's time to

**'This isn't a race of who gets there first. This is, get as many approved, safe and effective vaccines as you possibly can.'**

Dr. Anthony Fauci  
National Institutes of Health

set public expectations. Many scientists don't expect a coronavirus vaccine to be nearly as protective as the measles shot.

If the best COVID-19 vaccine is only 50% effective, "that's still to me a great vaccine," said Dr. Drew Weissman of the University of Pennsylvania.

"We need to start having this conversation now," so people won't be surprised, he added.

And for all the government promises of stockpiling doses in hopes of starting vaccinations by year's end, here's the catch: Even if a shot pans out — and it's one that your country stockpiled — only some high-risk people, such as essential workers, go to the front of a very long line.

"Will you and I get vaccinated this year? No," said Duke University health economist David Ridley.

Vaccines train the body to rapidly recognize and fend off an invading germ. About 15 experimental COVID-19 vaccines are in various stages of human studies worldwide.

And while there's no guarantee any will pan out, moving three different kinds into final testing offers better odds — especially since scientists don't yet know just how strong an immune reaction the shots must spark to protect.

Measuring that with the first proven vaccine will "really help us understand for all the other vaccines in development, do they also have a chance?" said Oxford University lead researcher Sarah Gilbert.

Only China is pushing out "inactivated" vaccines, made by growing the new coronavirus and killing it. Vaccines by Sinovac Biotech and SinoPharm use that old-fashioned technology, which requires high-security labs to produce but is dependable, the way polio shots and some flu vaccines are made.

Most other vaccines in the pipeline target not the whole germ but a key piece — the "spike" protein that studs the surface of the coronavirus and helps it invade human cells. Leading candidates use new technologies that make shots

faster to produce, but haven't yet been proven in people.

Oxford's method: Genetically engineer a chimpanzee cold virus so it won't spread but can carry the gene for that spike protein into just enough cells to trick the immune system that an infection's brewing.

Another vaccine made by the NIH and Moderna Inc. simply injects a piece of the coronavirus genetic code that instructs the body to produce harmless spike copies that the immune system learns to recognize.

Researchers must test thousands of people not where COVID-19 is surging — because then it's too late — but where it's smoldering, Fauci said.

Only if the virus starts spreading through a community several weeks after volunteers receive either a vaccine or a dummy shot — time enough for the immune system to rev up — do scientists have the best chance at comparing which group had more illness.

Lacking a crystal ball, the NIH has vaccine testing networks in the U.S., South America and South Africa on standby while finalizing decisions on the summer tests.

"We're going to be doing it in multiple sites with a degree of flexibility" so researchers can rapidly shift as the virus moves, Fauci said. "Nothing is going to

be easy."

The Oxford shot, with a 10,000-person study underway in England, already encountered that hurdle. Gilbert told a Parliament committee last week that there's "little chance, frankly" of proving the vaccine's effectiveness in Britain after infections plummeted with the lockdown.

So her team looked abroad. In addition to the planned U.S.-run study, Brazil last week began a last-stage test of the Oxford shot in 5,000 health workers, the first experimental COVID-19 vaccinations in South America. In another, first, South Africa opened a smaller safety study of the Oxford shot.

With few new infections in China, Sinovac next month will begin final tests in 9,000 Brazilian volunteers. And SinoPharm just signed an agreement with the United Arab Emirates; that study's size isn't clear.

Animal research suggests COVID-19 vaccines could prevent serious disease but may not completely block infection. One study which dripped the coronavirus into monkeys showed that vaccinated animals avoided pneumonia, but had some virus lurking in their noses and throats.

Whether it was enough to spread to the unvaccinated isn't known.



## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Governors face competing views as cases climb

By MICHELLE L. PRICE  
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — As Nevada prepared to start reopening parts of its economy last month, a team of medical experts recommended to Gov. Steve Sisolak that he require people wear masks in public to help stop the spread of the coronavirus.

The governor promoted masks but resisted making them a requirement, saying he feared the rule could create a backlash for businesses trying to enforce the order on customers.

With reported coronavirus cases rising the past four weeks, Sisolak on Wednesday finally decided to take their advice and impose the mandate, saying it was necessary to protect people and keep businesses open.

"People aren't wearing these," he said, waving a cloth face mask. "It is troubling and it is really discouraging that this has become a partisan issue about whether or not people want to wear a mask."

Sisolak's slow-stepping into the mask requirement reflects a fraught decision-making process among many governors as they listen to a variety of sometimes conflicting voices on how to respond to the spreading virus out-

break. The result is sometimes confusing and creates mixed messages for the public.

With reported coronavirus cases rising rapidly in many states, governors are getting lots of advice on what they should do. Unions want to be sure workers are protected on the job. Many business owners say they can't afford another forced shutdown. Public health officials urge them to make mask-wearing a statewide requirement. At the same time, governors are facing blowback on the right over business restrictions and mask regulations.

Dr. Brian Labus, an assistant professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Public Health and a member of the medical team advising Sisolak, said he knows the governor has to weigh public health advice against political and economic considerations.

"We were told not to think about all those other things. Don't make political decisions. There will be other groups that will do that," Labus said.

Nevada's governor has a panel of rural and urban county officials and economic advisers giving him input, along with his medical advisory team. Labor groups, politicians and businesses also bend his ear with unsolicited



ROBERT WILLET, THE NEWS & OBSERVER (RALEIGH, N.C.)/AP

**North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper faced pushback after announcing a statewide mask rule and a three-week pause on reopening businesses.**

feedback.

The competing voices on how to reopen their state's economy and what restrictions to impose have led to similar push-and-pulls for governors across the U.S. The decision-making has taken on new urgency as reported cases of the virus continue to rise and governors consider whether to pause or backtrack on their loosening of restrictions. The number of confirmed new coronavirus cases per day in the U.S. hit an all-time high of 40,000 Friday.

Some states, including Texas and Florida, have begun reversing some earlier steps intended to reopen their economies.

In Utah, coronavirus cases have been surging since most businesses were allowed to reopen in May. Gov. Gary Herbert, a Republi-

can, has paused lifting any more restrictions and has strongly encouraged people to wear masks.

He faces strong opposition if he tried to make it a mandate. An interest group founded by a conservative activist to push back against coronavirus restrictions, Utah Businesses Revival, has actively campaigned against mask-wearing or any renewed restrictions on economic activity. They and others have held protests that included an anti-mask demonstration at the Utah Capitol.

North Carolina's governor, Democrat Roy Cooper, last week announced a statewide mask rule and three-week pause on further reopenings, moves that were supported by a nurses association. But Cooper has faced pushback from Republican lawmakers and

small businesses that are still shuttered, including bars, gyms and bowling alleys, which have tried to overturn the governor's orders through legal action or legislation.

South Carolina's top infectious disease expert last week said a statewide requirement that people wear masks indoors would be a great help in what she said was a "critical juncture" in fighting COVID-19.

That advice from state epidemiologist Dr. Linda Bell runs against the public stance of Republican Gov. Henry McMaster, who continued to say that a mask requirement would step on personal liberties and be too hard to enforce.

## Public transit struggles with economic, ridership recovery

By RYAN BEENE  
Bloomberg

Masks are mandatory on subways and buses in Washington, D.C. San Francisco is betting longer trains will help riders social distance. Crews disinfect New York's trains daily — stations twice a day — and are testing ultraviolet light devices to see if they kill COVID-19 on surfaces.

As states gradually reopen, transit agencies are taking steps to coax back passengers who have been told for months to avoid just such tight quarters with strangers — an effort that will ultimately influence the economic recovery.

"For certain businesses, teleworking isn't really an option, so we still need to figure out ways to get those people to work," said Ed Mortimer, vice president of transportation and infrastructure at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Especially in urban areas, where many people don't own cars, mass transit will be crucial to reviving economies. But enticing passengers back on board may require adding trains and buses so people can space them-



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ, CHICAGO TRIBUNE/TNS

**David Cedras, 25, wears a mask while riding a Brown Line train in the Loop on June 9 in Chicago.**

selves farther apart — adding stress to agencies already reeling from declining ridership and rising cleaning costs.

The one-two punch of lower revenue from fewer riders and steeper cleaning costs has devastated the finances of New York City's transit system, which has left only a quarter of the nearly

\$4 billion in federal aid received in March. Those funds could be exhausted next month, and the agency is urging Congress to approve additional emergency aid.

"This is going to be an ongoing issue that agencies are definitely going to need some financial assistance from all levels of government to get through this difficult

time," Mortimer said. "But it's all a balancing act in how do we make it work."

Health experts say that the very nature of mass transit — efficiently moving large numbers of people in confined spaces — presents inherent risks.

"The greatest risk occurs when you're in close contact — within six feet — with someone from outside your household for a prolonged period of time," said Hilary Godwin, spokeswoman of the University of Washington's School of Public Health. "Really crowded buses and crowded subway systems obviously are things that we're going to be worried about."

Rush-hour crowds won't appear overnight, Godwin said. People will return to their offices gradually, while companies and governments in many places continue to ask people to work from home if possible.

IBM Corp. polling of nearly 30,000 U.S. adults between mid-April and early June found more than one in five typical transit users said they would no longer do so, and nearly a third said they'd use it less, the company

said in an email.

If a lack of ridership forces service cuts, the effect could be widening the divide between those who have the flexibility to work at home or the means to drive cars, versus those who must report to work and have no alternatives to public transportation.

"It just becomes more likely than transit agencies will say maybe we just need to provide less frequent service, and then the people who really rely on it have a big mobility problem," said Deborah Salon, associate professor at Arizona State University's School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning.

Ultimately, COVID-19 may force long-term changes in computing patterns and infrastructure demands.

"We know that at the end of the day that the public has to feel confident and feel good about riding transit, that it's safe for them from a health standpoint," said Paul Skoutelas CEO of the American Public Transportation Association, the transit industry's Washington trade association.

## NATION

# 2 dead after shooting at Calif. distribution center

Associated Press

RED BLUFF, Calif. — A man drove into a Northern California distribution center and started shooting at people, killing an employee and wounding four others before he was killed by police, authorities said.

The shooting by a 31-year-old man with a semi-automatic rifle started about 3:30 p.m. Saturday at the Walmart distribution center south of Red Bluff, a city of about 14,000 people about 131 miles north of Sacramento.

Tehama County Assistant Sheriff Phil Johnston said at a news conference that the shooter circled the parking lot four times before crashing into the building and opening fire with the rifle. Red Bluff Police officers shot and killed the suspect, KHSL-TV reported.

Officials did not identify the shooter, but Johnston said he has a history with the Red Bluff

workplace.

The shooting victims were taken to St. Elizabeth Community Hospital in Red Bluff, spokeswoman Allison Hendrickson told The Associated Press. She confirmed that four were hospitalized, but declined to provide more details.

Some of the 200 workers inside the facility locked themselves in a room, employees told KHSL-TV. The suspect was shot in the chest about 3:45 p.m., dispatchers told the newspaper.

Dispatchers told the Record-Searchlight that at least one woman had been shot. A man had also reported his leg being run over when the shooter rammed a vehicle into the building, but the man wasn't sure if he had been shot, dispatchers said.

Walmart spokesman Scott Pope told the Record-Searchlight that the company was "aware of the situation" and working with law enforcement.



MIKE CHAPMAN, THE (REDDING, CALIF.) RECORD SEARCHLIGHT/AP

Crime tape blocks off a parking lot outside the Red Bluff Walmart Distribution Center where at least two people were killed, including a shooting suspect and an employee, and four were injured Saturday in Red Bluff, Calif.

## Third Illinois warehouse shooting victim has died

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — A third person, who was critically wounded in a shooting at a warehouse in central Illinois where the suspect had fatally shot two coworkers before apparently killing himself, died Saturday afternoon, authorities said.

Police believe Michael L. Collins opened fire on three of his coworkers Friday, killing two at the Bunn-O-Matic facility in Springfield shortly after 11 a.m.

The victims who died Friday were Christopher Aumiller, 25, and Bill Gibbons, 61, both of Springfield, according to Sangamon County Coroner Jim Allmon. Their autopsies conducted Saturday morning concluded both

died of multiple gunshot wounds, Allmon told The (Springfield) State Journal-Register.

The third victim is a 54-year-old woman, who died Saturday just after 4:30 p.m. at HSHS St. John's Hospital. Her identity hasn't been revealed because her family hasn't been notified of her death, Allmon said. The woman's autopsy is scheduled for Monday, Allmon said.

Collins and his coworkers had all arrived for work at about 7 a.m. Friday in the welding area of the facility, Springfield Police Chief Kenny Winslow said. They all worked in the same area, he said.

Later Friday after the shooting, Collins was found dead in his car apparently of a self-inflicted gun-



JUSTIN L. FOWLER, THE STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER/AP

Law enforcement enter the C1 building to the west of the Bunn-O-Matic warehouse during an active shooter situation Friday in Springfield, Ill.

shot wound, Winslow said. Two handguns were also found in his car. No other suspects were being sought.

Aumiller and Gibbons' bodies

were found Friday by officers searching the facility building. The woman who died Saturday was found in the parking lot and taken to a hospital.

## Weekend gun violence in Chicago claims lives of 3 kids

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Shootings across Chicago over the weekend left three children dead, including a 10-year-old girl who was struck in the head by a stray bullet that came through an apartment window.

Earlier Saturday, a 1-year-old boy was killed and his mother injured when a gunman opened fire on their vehicle. And a 17-year-old died at a hospital after he got into an altercation and someone fired shots.

"The pain of losing a child never goes away," Mayor Lori Lightfoot said Saturday on Twitter. "As a mother, I am tired of the funerals. I am tired of burying our children."

The 10-year-old girl died at a hospital after the shooting in the Logan Square neighborhood northwest of downtown around 9:40 p.m., according to police spokesman Roberto Garduno.

Preliminary information showed the gunfire came from a group of males who had been shooting at each other on the block, he said. No one was in custody Sunday.

Earlier Saturday in the Englewood neighborhood on the city's South Side, a 1-year-old boy who was riding in the back of a car driven by his mother was shot when someone opened fire from another car. The mother suffered a graze wound to the head.

Police said the motive for the shooting was unclear.

Over Father's Day weekend, 14 people, including five children, were killed and more than 100 people were shot, marking the city's highest number of shooting victims in a single weekend this year.

## California's alleged Golden State Killer set to plead guilty

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Forty years after a sadistic suburban rapist terrorized California in what investigators later realized were a series of linked assaults and slayings, a 74-year-old former police officer is expected to plead guilty Monday to being the elusive Golden State Killer.

The deal will spare Joseph James DeAngelo Jr. any chance of the death penalty for 13 murders and 13 kidnapping-related charges spanning six counties. In partial return, survivors of the assaults that spanned the 1970s and 1980s expect him to admit to up to 62 rapes that he could not be criminally charged with because too much time has passed.

Yet nothing is certain until he actually speaks in a Sacramento State University ballroom pressed



RICH PEDRONCELLO/Associated Press  
Joseph James DeAngelo, charged with being the Golden State Killer, appears March 12 in court in Sacramento, Calif.

into use as a courtroom to provide for social distancing during the coronavirus pandemic.

"I've been on pins and needles because I just don't like that our

lives are tied to him, again," said Jennifer Carole, the daughter of Lyman Smith, a lawyer who was slain in 1980 at age 43 in Ventura County. His wife, 33-year-old Charlene Smith, was also raped and killed.

Investigators early on connected certain crimes to an armed and masked rapist who would break into sleeping couples' suburban homes at night, binding the man and piling dishes on his back. He would threaten to kill both victims if he heard the plates fall while he raped the woman.

Gay and Bob Hardwick were among the survivors.

They are now looking forward to DeAngelo admitting to that 1978 assault. The death penalty was never realistic anyway, she said, given DeAngelo's age and Gov. Gavin Newsom's moratori-

um on executions.

A guilty plea and life sentence avoids a trial or even the planned weeklong preliminary hearing. The victims expect to confront him at his sentencing in August. It's expected to take several days for the victims to tell DeAngelo and Sacramento County Superior Court Judge Michael Bowman what they have suffered.

Ron Harrington's younger brother, Keith, was married to Patti Harrington for just three months when they were bludgeoned to death in their Orange County home in 1980 by a killer then known as the Original Night Stalker.

Their father found the couple two days later.

"It was so gruesome," Harrington said. "My dad was never the same."

## NATION

# Young protesters keep spirit of US resistance alive

BY LINDSAY WHITEHURST  
Associated Press

Before George Floyd stopped pleading for air beneath a police officer's knee, Weldmayer Pierre, 19, was planning to work at Walmart during his summer break from Palm Beach State College.

Now his days look completely different. Pierre has quit his retail job to focus on organizing Black Lives Matter protests every few days in Florida, determined to channel the groundswell of energy around the world into meaningful reform in his hometown.

"Every time someone gets killed by police brutality we protest once or twice and it's done," said Pierre, who wants to help police improve the system from within. "This time, I'm not planning on stopping until we have a change."

Pierre is part of a grassroots,

decentralized wave of young organizers across the U.S. helping drive the outpouring of protests against racism and police brutality in cities and towns around the nation.

Many are new to organizing but have seen a drumbeat of deaths of police-brutality cases captured on video since they were children. Social media is second nature for many, and they're showing how small groups can translate online information quickly into real-life action.

Now, in big cities and small towns, both liberal and conservative, they are taking matters into their own hands and bringing together hundreds of thousands of people to press for change.

The novice organizers' visions for the future differ, but they all hope their visions are helping create a historic turning point in dismantling racism and inequity.

In Detroit, Stefan Perez, 16,



PAUL SANCYA/AP

Stefan Perez, center, addresses a crowd at a rally in Detroit, on June 3 over the death of George Floyd.

said his only real public speaking experience was on his school's debate team before early June when he was handed a megaphone and asked to help lead a protest at the city's police headquarters.

That night, he also stepped into the no man's land between the lines of protesters and police, putting his hands behind his back in a silent appeal for calm.

"At the end of the day, I wanted people to get home safe," he said. "The people who are with me and watching are the voice of Detroit."

Protesters have skewed younger demographically, with a median age of 30 or younger, at several major demonstrations since Floyd's death, said Dana R. Fisher, a professor of sociology at the University of Maryland and author of the book "American Resistance."

Many older adults are staying home due to their increased risk of the coronavirus and the pandemic has left younger people with more free time by forcing the cancellation of everything

from internships to beach plans.

"These are young people who have been trapped inside, which is increasing anxiety, increasing social isolation," Fisher said. "This call for solidarity has rung really true for them."

Most of the protesters she has surveyed report hearing about the rallies from decentralized sources, like their family, friends or the social-media platform Instagram, which is popular among younger people.

## Thousands protest in Denver over death of Elijah McClain

Associated Press

DENVER — Thousands of demonstrators gathered outside a suburban Denver police building Saturday to call for justice in the death of Elijah McClain, a 23-year-old Black man put into a chokehold by police last year.

McClain's death last August has prompted a handful of small protests over the last 10 months, but his case has garnered renewed attention amid a global outcry sparked when George Floyd died under the knee of a Minneapolis police officer May 25.

Saturday's demonstrations in Aurora were organized by the Denver chapter of the Party for Socialism and Liberation, the Denver Post reported. They began with a march and rally, which were expected to be followed by a youth-led protest and a violin vigil.

One protester, Franklin Williams, 25, came to show support and make sure the fervor continues.

"This shouldn't be a moment," Williams

said. "This should be a movement."

Social media posts of the protests early Saturday afternoon showed crowds of people demonstrating peacefully while police forces stood by wearing tactical gear.

Some in the crowd chanted, "Why are you in riot gear? We don't see no riot here."

Marchers walked behind a banner reading, "Justice for Elijah McClain, murdered by Aurora police."

Police in Aurora responded to a call of a suspicious person wearing a ski mask and waving his arms as he walked down a street on Aug. 24. They say McClain refused to stop walking and fought back when officers confronted him and tried to take him into custody.

"I have a right to stop you because you're being suspicious," an officer is heard on a body camera recording telling McClain. The encounter happened as McClain, a certified massage therapist and self-taught violin player, was running an errand.

To subdue McClain, officers used a choke-



PHILIP B. POSTON, SENTINEL COLORADO/AP

A demonstrator gestures while joining others at a rally for Elijah McClain outside city hall in Aurora, Colo., on June 6.

hold that cuts off blood to the brain — a tactic recently banned in several places in the wake of Floyd's death. Paramedics arrived soon after and administered a sedative to calm McClain down. McClain suffered cardiac arrest on the way to the hospital and was later declared brain dead. He was taken off life support less than a week later.

immediately released. Officials did not immediately release additional information.

"I am deeply saddened by the violence that erupted in Jefferson Square Park tonight, where those who have been voicing their concerns have been gathered," Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer said in a statement. "It is a tragedy that this area of peaceful protest is now a crime scene."

## 4 charged in attack on statue near White House

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal authorities have charged four men in connection with a failed effort last week to pull down the statue of President Andrew Jackson near the White House.

In a complaint unsealed Saturday, authorities allege that the men damaged and attempted to tear down the Jackson statue, which is located in Lafayette Square, on June 22. The square has been the site of protests in the aftermath of George Floyd's death while in police custody in Minneapolis.

Those charged are Lee Michael Cantrell, 47, of Virginia; Connor Matthew Judd, 20, of Washington, D.C.; Ryan Lane, 37, of Maryland; and Graham Lloyd, 37, of Maine. Judd was arrested Friday and appeared in Superior Court of the District of Columbia on Saturday, authorities said. The other three have not been apprehended. The FBI and the U.S. Park Police have been investigating the incident.

"The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia will not stand idly by and allow our national monuments to be vandalized and destroyed," Acting U.S. Attorney Michael R. Sherwin said in a statement.

## 1 fatally shot at Breonna Taylor protest in Ky.

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Authorities were investigating a fatal shooting Saturday night at a park in downtown Louisville where demonstrators had gathered to protest the death of Breonna Taylor.

Reports of shots fired at Jefferson Square Park came in around 9 p.m., Louisville Metro police

said in a statement, followed by calls that the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department was performing life-saving measures on a male who died at the scene. Shortly after, police were told of a shooting victim across the street at the Hall of Justice. That person was hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries.

Video posted on social media appeared to show a man opening

fire into the park as people scrambled for cover. The footage later showed at least one person bleeding profusely on the ground.

Officers cleared the park and police "are trying to gather as much information as possible in order to identify all who were involved in the incident," the statement said. No information about arrests, possible suspects and the victims' identities and ages was



# NATION

## Tattoo redo

### Artist sees increase in desire to erase hateful, racist skin art

By WILSON RING  
Associated Press

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. — A Vermont tattoo artist who has long offered free removal or covering of hateful skin art like swastikas, SS lightning bolts or the words “white power” says he’s seen an uptick in business recently following George Floyd’s death.

Alexander Lawrence, who runs Mountainside Tattoo from a storefront in the village of Bellows Falls, says he’s always offered to remove hateful images or cover scars for free. But following Floyd’s death at the hands of Minneapolis police, which sparked global protests against police brutality and revived the Black Lives Matter movement, Lawrence says he’s been getting so many requests he’s looking for an office manager to schedule his appointments.

“I think they were out there, but it wasn’t, like, in the limelight, you know, until things started happening and people are, like, ‘Oh, man I have this old tattoo. I’m not like that anymore and I don’t want people to think that I am,’” Lawrence said.

Earlier this month Dylan Graves, 28, visited Lawrence’s shop to cover a swastika tattoo superimposed over a grinning skull wearing a World War II German army helmet he had inked on the inside of his upper left arm a decade ago.

When asked why he got the tattoo, Graves answered, “Stupidity, partying when I was younger. Really, that’s it. Just being dumb.”

Now he works for an excavation company that does jobs at the homes of wealthy people in the tourist town of Ludlow.

“It’s just not something to have on, and I hate it now,” he said while Alexander sketched the

outline of the image that would cover the swastika.

Many tattoo artists across the country will cover or erase old tattoos, especially in the aftermath of Floyd’s killing, but Alexander said not all do it for free.

Dr. Jeffrey Dover, a dermatologist who is the director of Skin-Care Physicians in Chestnut Hill, Mass., said covering or removing offensive tattoos is a public service.

“It’s a pro bono service to the community, a service to humanity, a service to the individual who has the tattoo, but also to all those who are offended by the tattoo,” said Dover, who is also an associate professor of Dermatology at Yale School of Medicine. “Just think of the recoil of a Holocaust survivor who sees a Nazi tattoo.”

Alexander said he’s been doing free cover-ups since shortly after he opened his business in 2006. He’s had brushes with the law and the free cover-ups are a way give back.

“I’ve had people forgive me and look past my bad decisions and help me get to a better place,” he said.

It’s hard for people with offensive tattoos to escape them, and he said helping to remove them is a way he can help.

“These people, they’re stuck looking at their bad decisions every day,” he said. “They have to hide them.”

Alexander said he covers lots of symbols associated with Nazi Germany. Within the next few weeks, Alexander expects to see a customer who has “white” tattooed on the back of the calf of one leg and “power” tattooed on the other.

Alexander said many want to cover the tattoos because businesses don’t want to have employ-



Above: Tattoo artist Alexander Lawrence, right, prepares to cover up a tattoo that contained the image of a swastika on the arm of Dylan Graves in Bellows Falls, Vt., earlier this month. Left: Graves shows off the completed cover-up. Lawrence covers up or removes offensive tattoos for free.

PHOTOS BY WILSON RING/AP

ees seen as racist.

“I see it all the time, people losing their jobs because of bad decisions from previous years,” he said.

As an artist, Alexander said he was contemptuous of hate tattoos, most of which aren’t professionally done.

“They’re homemade,” he said. “They’re usually big and disproportionate and not even clean lines. So not only are they racist,

but they’re crappy.”

Graves said his swastika tattoo hasn’t drawn a lot of attention because it’s hidden, but he was still eager to get rid of it.

Since Graves’ tattoo already has the image of a skull, Alexander used a pen to outline the image of the grim reaper. After he outlines the swastika cover-up Alexander starts applying the ink while Graves occasionally grimaces.

After almost 90 minutes in Alexander’s tattoo chair, the swastika is gone, replaced by the head of a grim reaper, the mythological character that is a symbol of death.

“What do you think, man?” Alexander asks Graves as he gives the arm a final wipe-down.

“Yeah, man,” Graves answers.

After getting out of the chair and looking at it in the mirror, Graves said, “It’s awesome.”

## Owner of Eskimo Pie to change its ‘derogatory’ name and marketing

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The owner of Eskimo Pie is changing its name and marketing of the nearly century-old chocolate-covered ice cream bar, the latest brand to reckon with racially charged

logos and marketing.

“We are committed to being a part of the solution on racial equality, and recognize the term is derogatory,” Elizabeth Marquez, head of marketing for its parent Dreyer’s Grand Ice Cream, the

U.S. subsidiary for Froneri, said in a statement. “This move is part of a larger review to ensure our company and brands reflect our people values.”

The treat was patented by Christian Kent Nelson of Ohio

and his business partner Russell C. Stover in 1922, according to Smithsonian Magazine.

Eskimo Pie joins a growing list of brands that are rethinking their marketing in the wake of the Black Lives Matter protests in re-

cent weeks triggered by the death of George Floyd. Quaker Oats announced recently that it will retire the Aunt Jemima brand, saying the company recognizes the character’s origins are “based on a racial stereotype.”



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## WORLD

# Satellite images show buildup on contested India-China border

Associated Press

BEIJING — Construction activity appeared underway on both the Indian and Chinese sides of a contested border high in the Karakoram mountains a week after a deadly clash in the area left 20 Indian soldiers dead, satellite images showed.

The images released this week by Maxar, a Colorado-based satellite imagery company, show new construction activity along the Galwan River Valley, even as Chinese and Indian diplomats said military commanders had agreed to disengage from a stand-off there.

The images appeared to show that the Indians had built a wall on their side and the Chinese had expanded an outpost camp at the end of a long road connected to

Chinese military bases farther from the poorly defined border, according to experts.

The contradictions in words and deeds showed the fragility of an agreement following the worst violence since the Asian giants went to war in 1962 over their competing claims to the arid border region, experts said.

China has said that India first changed the status quo last August when it split the state of Jammu and Kashmir into two federal territories — the territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the territory of Ladakh, parts of which are contested by China.

The new maps released by India following the move drew criticism from Beijing because they showed Aksai Chin — an area administered by China but

contested by India — as part of Ladakh.

Indian officials said the stand-off that culminated in this month's deadly clash in the Galwan Valley, part of a remote stretch of the 2,100-mile Line of Actual Control, or LAC, established following the 1962 war, began in early May when large contingents of Chinese soldiers entered deep inside Indian-controlled territory at three places in Ladakh, erecting tents.

After a few skirmishes in May, Indian and Chinese commanders met June 6 to hash out an agreement that would reduce tensions.

The two sides agreed to build observation posts on either side of the mouth of the Galwan River, China's ambassador to India, Sun Weidong, told the Press Trust of India news agency on Tuesday.

# Iranian blast was near suspected missile site

By JON GAMBRELL  
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — An explosion that rattled Iran's capital came from an area in its eastern mountains that analysts believe hides an underground tunnel system and missile production sites, satellite photographs showed Saturday.

What exploded in the incident early Friday that sent a massive fireball into the sky near Tehran remains unclear, as does the cause of the blast.

The unusual response of the Iranian government in the aftermath of the explosion, however, underscores the sensitive nature of an area near where international inspectors believe the Islamic Republic conducted high-explosive tests two decades ago for nuclear weapon triggers.

The blast shook homes, rattled windows and lit up the horizon early Friday in the Alborz Mountains. State TV later aired a segment from what it described as the site of the blast.

One of its journalists stood in front of what appeared to be large, blackened gas cylinders,



PLANET LABS/AP

**A combination of satellite images from Saturday, top, and June 10, bottom, from Planet Labs shows the site of an explosion that rattled Iran's capital.**

though the camera remained tightly focused and did not show anything else around the site. Defense Ministry spokesman Davoud Abdi blamed the blast on a leaking gas he did not identify and said no one was killed in the explosion.

## Man charged in British park stabbing

LONDON — U.K. counterterrorism police have charged a 25-year-old man with three counts

of murder and three counts of attempted murder for a stabbing attack in an English park that killed three men a week ago.

British prosecutors charged the charges filed Saturday against

Khairi Saadallah, of Reading. The attack happened June 20 at Forbury Gardens park in Reading, a town of 200,000 people some 40 miles west of London.

From The Associated Press

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# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Three sentenced for trafficking Disney DVDs

**KY** COVINGTON — Three people were sentenced in federal court in Eastern Kentucky for trafficking counterfeit Disney DVDs.

Hongtao Zhu, Hui Lin and He Lin were sentenced to 46 months in federal prison and ordered to pay nearly \$900,000 in restitution, according to a news release from federal prosecutors. The defendants pleaded guilty in October.

The DVDs appeared to be genuine Disney productions but were counterfeits from China, according to the release. The defendants imported them and sold them online over eBay. The scheme continued for two years.

The investigation was directed by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, with assistance provided by the Motion Picture Association.

## Restaurant chain fined for taking wages, tips

**FL** DAVIE — Federal officials said a Florida restaurant chain with six locations was fined more than \$314,500 for taking employee tips and wages.

The U.S. Department of Labor reported that the Vietnamese chain Pho 79 "illegally diverted" federal overtime pay and tips from 65 employees. The South Florida Sun Sentinel reported that, on average, the fine would come out to about \$4,800 per employee.

The Labor Department found that Pho 79 had a number of violations, including forcing some employees to work virtually unlimited hours, taking all tips from workers and not keeping a record of employee hours worked.

A Labor Department spokesman said the restaurant agreed to comply with the applicable laws in the future.

## Police pursue vandals of firefighter memorial

**SC** CHARLESTON — An investigation was underway after a Charleston police officer spotted debris in a road that led to the discovery of vandalism at a memorial site for nine firefighters.

The memorial marks the former site of the Sofa Super Store, where nine firefighters died battling a massive fire in the furniture showroom June 18, 2007.

When he arrived at the memorial park, the officer found an American flag draped over a cross along with several smaller flags scattered around, an incident report stated. The officer then noticed that the nine PVC pipe memorial crosses at the park had been uprooted and broken.

Police also said the American flag and the memorial flag had been removed from the flagpole in the park, an angel statue at the Louis Mumford memorial plaque had been knocked over, and an American flag had been broken off of the Billy Hutchinson memorial plaque.

Police were reviewing security footage from a nearby gas station.



RODELIO V. SOLIS/AP

## Not horsing around

Joseph Smith, 2, cries out as his father, John Smith, encourages him to pet a Hinds County Sheriff's Department Mounted Patrol horse during a break at the Galloway Children's Center in Jackson, Miss. The younger Smith and his schoolmates took advantage of a warm day to parade around the center with their parents in a pre-Fourth of July celebration, accompanied by the mounted deputies, a Jackson, Miss., Police Department motorcycle escort and a Jackson Fire Department fire truck.

## 'Tiger King' zoo being investigated for neglect

**OK** WYNNEWOOD — Federal officials are investigating an Oklahoma zoo made famous in Netflix's "Tiger King" series after an animal rights group accused it of neglect.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals sent requests to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to investigate Greater Wynnewood Exotic Animal Park after a whistleblower provided them with photos and video of animals suffering from flystrike, according to the nonprofit's release.

Flystrike is a condition in which flies, usually drawn to uncleared animal waste, bite animals and lay eggs on them. The maggots eat away at their skin, HOKH-TV reported.

## Man arrested for buying dynamite, charged anew

**PA** HARRISBURG — A man who authorities said claimed to use explosives to blow up at least one cash machine in Philadelphia was hit with additional charges after 30 more sticks of homemade dynamite were found in his home, Pennsylvania's attorney general said.

Talib Crump, 26, was charged with additional counts of felony possession of weapons of mass

## THE CENSUS

**74** The number of miles that Jon Pincince of Charlestown, R.I., ran to raise money for the Nonviolence Institute in Providence. Pincince set out to run 80 miles on his 43rd birthday, starting in Burrillville, W.P.R.I.-TV reported. He ran 74 miles to Charlestown and stopped when he could no longer stand. He raised approximately \$10,000, The Boston Globe reported. He decided to raise money for the institute after they postponed their annual fundraiser amid the coronavirus pandemic.

destruction, risking a catastrophe and more.

Crump was initially arrested June 2 during an undercover buy, and his car was found to have enough dynamite to blow up at least four ATMs. Crump had bragged on social media about using dynamite to steal money from an ATM and posted instructions on how to best set up dynamite to blow up an ATM, Attorney General Josh Shapiro said.

The dynamite found in his home matched the explosives he advertised on social media before his arrest earlier this month, they added.

## Wildlife officers seek killer of black bear

**NC** WASHINGTON — Wildlife officials in North Carolina are investigating the shooting of a black bear that had been seen sleeping in the community of Washington.

The bear, estimated to weigh between 250 to 300 pounds, was

shot Thursday, WRAL-TV reported. Wildlife officers and police officers had been keeping an eye on the animal. After wildlife officers were notified about a shooting, they found the bear dead when they arrived at the scene.

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Officer Ryan Biggerstaff said people in the community have not cooperated with the investigation.

The state agency has offered a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to an arrest. The person responsible could face misdemeanor charges and thousands of dollars in fines.

## Two men charged after stealing from churches

**PA** NORRISTOWN — Two men were charged with burglary and other crimes for allegedly breaking into 10 churches in Philadelphia and nearby suburbs, stealing safes, precious metals and electronics, prosecutors announced.

Authorities alleged that Gabriel E. Minnick, 21, and Samaj Howard, 20, both of Philadelphia, burglarized the churches over about a month earlier this year, typically going in at night through first-floor windows.

They're accused of taking a TV from a nursery, cash from a collection box for the poor and bottles of wine, among other things. They also allegedly damaged church buildings and also face charges related to three stolen vehicles, prosecutors said.

## 58 neglected cats rescued from home

**IA** DES MOINES — Fifty-eight cats were rescued from an Iowa home, but rescuers were unable to save one other dehydrated cat who died shortly after they arrived.

The Animal Rescue League of Iowa said the animals found in a home in Mitchell County ranged in age from kittens to adult cats, the Des Moines Register reported.

Urine and feces were all over the home, said Stephanie Filer, spokeswoman for the Animal Rescue League.

All the cats in the home had fleas and mites, and some had respiratory infections and ringworm, she said in a news release.

The cats are now at the group's shelter in Des Moines.

From wire reports



## FACES



# Course correction

Timely intervention keeps Lil Yachty album chugging along

By GARY GERARD HAMILTON  
Associated Press

If it weren't for Grammy-winning rapper Young Thug, Lil Yachty's latest album might be filled with slow, melodic love songs, the opposite of what fans received last month.

"I played it for Young Thug. He was like, 'Nah. Nahhhhh,'" Yachty said with a laugh. "He was like, 'You need to make it more up-tempo, bro. You need more hits, more energy.' And I was like, 'OK, Young Thug.' So I went back again and started over."

But that wasn't the first time the 22-year-old scrapped an entire version of "Lil Boat 3" and started from scratch. The final version, which was crafted out of 200 songs he recorded, experienced several starts and stops.

"I just kept getting re-inspired. Like one time, it was this alternative album that was just trippy and all over the place," said Yachty, now free of his signature red-dyed braids he says severely damaged his hair. "I was like, 'Nah, it's been too long since I dropped. I can't come back like this ... It's gotta be turnt!'"

The final incarnation of "Lil Boat 3" is a 19-track project filled with familiar ATL-vibed sing-song melodies and energetic trap beats, assisted by other hip-hop heavyweight guests like Drake, Future, DaBaby, ASAP Rocky, Tyler, the Creator and Young Thug.

In an interview with The Associated Press, the rapper talked about his album, experiencing fame at a young age and getting respect.

**Associated Press: Were you able to learn anything from Drake while working together?**

**Yachty:** I just learned that there is a lot richer you can be. I thought I was rich. That guy — wooooo! (He) makes me feel poor. That's a big motivation because, like, man, it's so many more levels and so many more steps. And I can never be content and just be comfortable where I am, because it's so much further I can go. And that's nothing he ever told me. It's just by seeing or either talking to him or just like watching him, which is good because you need that inspiration to fuel you sometimes.

**You received a lot of praise for your "Oprah's Bank Account" video, but also some backlash for dressing like the media mogul in heels and a dress.**

I had forgot that the world was how it is. Even when we were shooting, I didn't think, "Bro, people are gonna be on my (expletive) about this!" ... So, I when I dropped it and it got a lot of backlash, I forgot people are stupid.

**You recorded hundreds of songs and mentioned it was hard choosing 19 for the album. What was the most difficult part?**

It's almost like I'm just trying to make what I think is best, you know? But that's not the way it

should be. You should make what you genuinely want to make.

**You've been famous since you graduated high school. How have you navigated the pressures?**

I had to deal with a lot of (expletive), you know, cut a lot of people out of my life. Just got burned a bunch of times. My circle's super small now. I still ain't never been, I feel like, in a real relationship or real love. I'm scared. It's (expletive) up, especially since I came straight from high school, so I didn't have no time to get to meet nobody and have nobody meet me before I got famous or rich. Like, to meet me as me: as a man, as a person, as a human being. So, it's hard to tell the difference ... I try with women. I got bad trust issues, though. I'm not gonna lie.

**You've said you haven't received the respect you deserve from the industry. What do you think you need to do to get it?**

Bro, I don't know. That's a great question. I don't know if I gotta write 100 hits for 100 different artists? Do I gotta go to 100 different radio (stations) and do 100 freestyles? I don't know. But we'll figure it out. I think people are just genuinely hating me ... I pray that I don't have to die to get my respect, but someone's gonna give it to me.

## "Tenet" film release delayed

From wire reports

With reported cases of the coronavirus surging, Warner Bros. on June 25 postponed the release of Christopher Nolan's "Tenet," further delaying Hollywood's summer kickoff.

The sci-fi thriller starring John David Washington and Robert Pattinson will move from July 31 to Aug. 12, a Wednesday. In a statement, the studio stressed the need for flexibility.

"We are choosing to open the movie mid-week to allow audiences to discover the film in their own time, and we plan to play longer, over an extended play period far beyond the norm, to develop a very different yet successful release strategy," a Warner Bros. spokesperson said in a statement.

Movie theaters had been pinning their hopes on the film as a major July release that could bring audiences back to theaters. Warner Bros. had planned to re-release Nolan's 2010 blockbuster "Inception" in early July as a way to lead in to "Tenet." "Inception" will now open on July 31, the studio said.

Several films still are scheduled to open in July, namely Disney's delayed live-action version of "Mulan," though it remains unclear whether theaters will be allowed to open as planned in major markets like New York and Los Angeles.

### Van Halen legend Roth announces name change

David Lee Roth has changed his name. The former Van Halen frontman now wants to be called "David L. Roth" or "El Roth."

The change appears to be inspired by the current movement in the music industry to disown words having to do with the slavery that existed in the South — which comes in response to the Black Lives Matter protests that rose up after the death of George Floyd.

Roth made the announcement via social media, posting a piece of artwork he'd created, showing a giant frog by a tiny human, with

the following text about the name change:

"David 'Lee' Roth changes name! Diamond Dane, following Lady Antebellum's (now 'Lady A') example, will be dropping the 'Lee' from now on. He wants us all to call him 'David L. Roth' or simply 'El Roth.'"

And he ends the message, for some reason, with: "Bannana fana-fo-fana."

"El Roth" did not go into details as to why he'd decided to strike the "Lee" from his name. But some have hypothesized that it might be because of its linkage to Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. Many are assuming it's meant to be a joke.

### Other news

■ "The Big Bang Theory" actor Mayim Bialik is teaming with DC Entertainment on a project that joins superhero power to the power of science. DC Entertainment announced June 25 that Bialik will collaborate with popular comic writers and illustrators on "Flash Facts," a story collection coming in February that features Batman, Superman, the Flash and others in search of such mysteries such as why polar ice melts and what can be found at the bottom of the sea.

■ Kimberly Jones, the author and activist whose "How We Can Win" video was shared online by LeBron James and Trevor Noah among others, has a deal for two books. Henry Holt and Company announced June 25 that for the first book Jones will expand upon the 3-minute video, in which she likened the economic history of Blacks in the United States to a rigged game of Monopoly. The book edition of "How We Can Win" is scheduled for next spring.

■ Kanye West is bringing his Yeetz brand to Gap. The rap superstar will design adult and kids' clothing that will be sold at Gap next year. Yeetz is best known for pricey sneakers that sell out online quickly. But Yeetz footwear, made with sneaker company Adidas, won't be sold at Gap.

### Dixie Chicks unveil new name, new song

The country band formerly known as the Dixie Chicks debuted a new song June 25 and under a new name: the Chicks.

Though the trio provided little explanation, the change likely was made in an effort to dissociate the band from the racist history of the American South, also known as "Dixie" during the Civil War era. Lady A, the country act previously known as Lady Antebellum, made a similar move recently.

"We want to meet this moment," Chicks members Natalie Maines, Emily Strayer and Martie Maguire said in a brief statement on their website.

The music video released June 25 for the Chicks' "March March" features footage from Black Lives Matter protests and lists the names of several victims



From left, Emily Robison, Natalie Maines and Martie Maguire are now going by the Chicks.

of racial violence.

"The Chicks" appear to have taken precautions to avoid creating a new controversy surrounding the name change, offering a "sincere and heartfelt thank you" to "The Chicks" of NZ for their gracious gesture in allowing us to share their name.

"Gaslighter," the Chicks' first new album in 14 years, launches July 17.

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## OPINION

## Past salary shouldn't dictate future earnings

By NOAH SMITH  
Bloomberg Opinion

Suppose you're on a trip overseas and you need to buy a shirt, but you don't know any of the brands. You see two shirts in a store that both look pretty good, but one costs twice as much as the other. You might assume that the more expensive shirt somehow is superior — that it's better made or that the locals will see it as more stylish. You might decide it's worth the price and spend the extra money.

This isn't how economics is supposed to work. Econ 101 teaches us that demand curves slope down; when something is more expensive, buyers are supposed to want less of it, not more. But when it's hard to find information about the quality of what you're buying, people may use the price as a signal of value and pay more for things just because they cost more. This can lead to all sorts of inefficient outcomes, including herd behavior — for example, bubbles in financial markets, when traders mistakenly assume that a rise in asset prices must reflect some underlying increase in fundamental value.

This also can happen in the labor market. It's hard to know exactly how much an employee deserves to be paid before they've been hired. Even if they have sterling credentials, they might not end up being very productive once on staff. Instead of rigorously evaluating each employee or taking a gamble, many employers do the lazy thing and use a worker's salary history to determine how much to offer them. Economists Robert Hall and Alan Krueger

found in 2012 that about half of employers asked about an applicant's past compensation before making a job offer. And a field experiment by economists Moshe Barach and John Horton found in 2019 that when employers had to make hires without asking about pay history, they spend more effort evaluating applicants and tended to go with workers who had earned less.

That just confirms what most job searchers already know: The more they've been paid in the past, the more they can demand in the future. This lazy method of inferring quality from price may seem to make sense for an individual company, but it can create a disconnect between pay and productivity because one undesired increase or decrease in salary can get frozen in for a worker's entire career. This is especially pernicious when the unfair salary distortion is the result of discrimination.

Race and gender discrimination boost the wages of white men relative to their peers. If employers use salary history to determine future salary, those increases last a lot longer than they otherwise would; even if discrimination declines, the dead hand of past unfairness can exert power over workers' careers long into the future. This means some companies can end up with a bunch of overpaid, less-than-competent white men on their payroll. But even more importantly, it perpetuates social inequalities that make the entire economic system look illegitimate in the eyes of younger workers.

Thus, in recent years, some states have begun to limit the practice of asking about job applicants' past salaries. Massachusetts was the first, but 18 others have

since followed suit. More than a fifth of private-sector workers are now covered by the bans.

Economists are now finding that the bans are working as intended. A new paper by economists James Bessen, Chen Meng and Eric Denton evaluated data from online help-wanted ads. The researchers found that in states where employers weren't allowed to ask about salary history, Black employees who switched jobs got offered 13% more on average relative to similar peers in states without such bans. That's about one-fifth of the average Black-white wage gap in the U.S., so this represents a very substantial improvement. Women also saw a wage boost of about 8% from the bans.

The efficacy of salary history prohibitions suggests that a good deal of the lower wages Black Americans receive compared with their white counterparts isn't because of current racial discrimination, but to the entrenched legacy of past discrimination, or what some call structural racism.

Salary history bans represent one way that policy makers can strike a blow against structural racism and sexism, while also forcing employers to make smarter calculations of how average Black workers were thus increasing both social equality and economic efficiency. Inferring quality from price is always risky, whether it's in stocks, houses or dress shirts; but in the case of labor markets, it perpetuates unfairness as well. Every state should adopt such a ban.

Bloomberg Opinion columnist Noah Smith was an assistant professor of finance at Stony Brook University, and he blogs at NoahSmith. This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board or Bloomberg LP and its owners.

## Right time to rethink the presidential debates

By KAREN TUMULTY

The Washington Post

Given how many ugly turns this presidential election year has already taken and how many more are sure to come, it is probably a fool's errand to go in search of silver linings in 2020.

But the realities of campaigning amid a pandemic are forcing adjustments to the rituals of politics — some of which are for the better and long overdue.

I've written before about how the quadrennial party conventions have outlived their purpose. There is no suspense any more to these pointless, lobbyist-funded infomercials, and television audiences find them boring.

President Donald Trump and the Republicans are clinging to the idea of holding a huge gathering this summer, but the Democrats make a wise move Wednesday and announced that theirs will be drastically scaled back, physically speaking.

While former Vice President Joe Biden will not be accepting his party's nomination with the cheers of 20,000 people ringing in his ears, 21st-century technology if used creatively gives the Democrats an opportunity to make their convention a more broadly shared experience and an organizing tool for mobilizing support as the fall campaign gets underway.

Next up: It's time to do some rethinking about the debates.

Trump is claiming he would like to have four face-offs with Biden, rather than the three (plus one vice presidential debate), that are currently scheduled to take place between Sept. 29 and Oct. 22.

This is not a serious proposal. Even under the best of circumstances, scheduling these much-watched events on the busy fall calendar is a difficult challenge for the Commission on Presidential Debates,

which has been in charge of the process since the 1988 election.

It has to find dates that are not on Friday or Saturday nights, do not conflict with sports and other events networks are committed to, or official presidential business, such as attending the U.N. General Assembly in September. Each debate generally requires the candidates to spend public appearances for at least a few days to prepare.

Finding venues is a challenge, as well, particularly this year. The University of Michigan, which was originally supposed to host the second debate Oct. 15, backed out last week. University President Mark Schlissel said that with the challenge of trying to reopen the campus safely amid the COVID-19 pandemic, it was not feasible for us to safely host the presidential debate as planned." It has been moved to Miami.

All of this could be simplified if the campaigns would drastically reduce the live audiences who attend the debates — or even do away with them entirely.

The debates would probably be better, then, if they were conducted — as the famed 1960 one between John F. Kennedy and Richard M. Nixon was — in a television studio. With modern technology, it would be possible even to hold a town-hall-style debate that way.

"I think the reason the audiences are there is to satisfy the demand for seats from contributors and major party figures and from those who support the Commission on Presidential Debates," says Democratic Bob Shrum, who was a top adviser to candidates Al Gore in 2000 and John Kerry in 2004. "The debates would be better without competing cheering sections, who invariably ignore the advice not to applaud or react." Cutting back or eliminating the live audience would also make it more difficult for

candidates to pull stunts like Trump did in 2016, when he brought four women who had accused Bill Clinton of sexual abuse to a debate in St. Louis and attempted to seat them in his family's box.

At the time, Trump himself was reeling from similar accusations, as well as the revelations of his own crude comments about women, which were recorded on a now-famous "Access Hollywood" tape. The plan had been to have the accusers confront the former president, who is also the spouse of the 2016 Democratic nominee, Hillary Clinton, on national television. When debate commission officials got wind of the gambit, they put a stop to it.

There remain a lot of details to be worked out between now and the first debate. Given the prospect of long, hot, scorching days ready for lots of wrangling over ground rules and the choice of moderators. Nor will it be a surprise if, at some point, Trump threatens to walk away from the debates entirely.

History also gives him reason to be wary. Sitting presidents — among them, Jimmy Carter in 1980, Ronald Reagan in 1984 and Barack Obama in 2012 — often stumble in their first debates because they arrived both overconfident and out of practice.

This year, the stakes for Trump could hardly be higher: His poll numbers are dropping, and there are signs that even Trump's bluster-loving base is starting to have its doubts about him, now that it is seeing how he handles himself in a real crisis.

So as he looks ahead to the debates, the embattled president might want to focus on winning the old-fashioned way: by studying the issues, showing up prepared and commanding the facts. If Trump were to manage to do that, it could be the biggest October surprise of all.

Cutting back or eliminating the live audience would also make it more difficult for

## OPINION

## Governors must protect health care workers

By MICHELE HEISLER  
AND RANIT MISHORI

Bloomberg Opinion

**T**he federal government's response to COVID-19 has been haphazard, mismanaged and ultimately deadly. Yet the Trump administration is trumpeting the country's "success" against the pandemic, with the vice president recently declaring that the U.S. response to COVID-19 is "cause for celebration."

As doctors, we are not celebrating. With more than 125,000 people in the United States dead from COVID-19 and new cases climbing in 29 states, this is no time to let down our guard. And while the issue may have faded from the headlines, health workers in many parts of the country still lack personal protective equipment. Doctors' and nurses' pleas for masks and gloves may no longer be trending on social media, but the nationwide PPE crisis persists.

We have seen colleagues and friends forced to make impossible decisions — putting their own lives at risk to care for COVID-19 patients because they didn't have the proper protective equipment. Some health workers have lost their jobs for speaking out about these shortages. The danger is real: At least 939 health workers have died of COVID-19 in the U.S., according to National Nurses United, and this is likely an undercount. These deaths were largely preventable.

Whether we're still in the first wave of COVID-19 infections or preparing for the second, this much is true: We cannot abandon medical workers again by not providing the protective equipment they need. But to date, the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration has only issued voluntary worker-protection standards in health care settings. This leaves these standards unenforceable. Many health care workers have been protesting safety issues have gone unaddressed.

With the Trump administration attempting to simply wish away the pandemic, it's again up to the states to shape the next



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

**Health care workers process patient information at a United Memorial Medical Center COVID-19 testing site Wednesday in Houston.**

phase of our response to COVID-19. Crucially, this includes a responsibility to protect the health workers on the front lines in the weeks and months ahead.

This is why thousands of health professionals, including our organization, Physicians for Human Rights, are calling on governors in all 50 states to exercise their authority to protect front-line health workers during the pandemic. That means setting clear and enforceable workplace safety standards, and mandating the provision of personal protective equipment. Governors should also enact clear standards for social distancing and hygiene measures, and enhance whistleblower protections.

Last week, Virginia proposed the country's first pandemic emergency workplace safety standards — the clearest signal yet

of OSHA's neglect of its duty to protect health workers. The new state regulations are expected to include mandatory guidelines for PPE, sanitation and other workplace safety guidance, as well as protections from retaliation for health workers who speak out about safety concerns. This is an encouraging development, but whether it will save lives depends largely on the state's enforcement practices.

Some states, including Maryland and New York, have OSHA-approved state plans that meet or exceed national standards. That means they can impose stricter safety rules in public health care facilities, and in some cases private ones, too. In places where there is no state plan, governors and state legislatures must step in and institute emergency standards for

worker safety and enforcement that go beyond OSHA's voluntary measures. OSHA's nonenforceable standards currently set a very low bar for health worker safety during a pandemic. The states aiming higher will save lives.

Given these gaps, it is crucial that Maryland Republican Gov. Larry Hogan and New York Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo, the chair and vice-chair, respectively, of the National Governors Association, exercise their leadership to push for universal protections for health care workers across the nation. States can look to the California model, where there are standards set and generally enforced by the state for social distancing, face masks, hand sanitizing, washing and gloves. California also boasts regular workplace disinfection, increased ventilation and notification of infections.

Beyond passing new standards, it is essential that states enforce them. Once issued, relevant state agencies should be mandated to enforce standards under their own authority. States' attorneys general should likewise be mandated to enforce these standards through the courts. States should also consider criminalizing the practice of protecting health workers from discrimination or dismissal for speaking out in the face of dangerous conditions. Likewise, health workers should not face retribution for bringing additional personal protection to their jobs when employers are unable to provide adequate PPE.

As physicians, we know that the U.S. is still facing the biggest public health emergency in our lifetimes. The leadership of governors across the country has been vital in mitigating an even deadlier disaster. As we enter the fifth month of the coronavirus crisis, state-level leaders must rise to meet the challenge. They must ensure that the U.S. has the health workers who protect all of us.

Michele Heisler is medical director at Physicians for Human Rights and a professor of internal medicine and public health at the University of Michigan. Ranit Mishori is senior medical adviser at Physicians for Human Rights and a professor of family medicine at Georgetown University.

## Science is better when we open our doors to immigrants

By UBADAH SABBAGH

Special to The Washington Post

**I** took a stroll the other day through my research institution, passing by six labs in one hallway. Of course, we aren't operating at full capacity — most people are home because of COVID-19 restrictions. But I did a mental tally of my colleagues working in each lab. Fifty-eight percent of the scientists in that one hallway are immigrants from at least eight countries, including me.

As the nation grapples with a new recession, deals with a resurgence of COVID-19 and reckons with systemic racism, the war on immigration continues. The Trump administration is now ending visa programs — including ones for skilled immigrants — under the pretext of staving off the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic and saving jobs for the American worker. This move will be catastrophic to the U.S. scientific enterprise at a time when we should be strengthening it with investments of funding and talent, all while likely having no substantial effect on U.S. unemployment.

In April, while the government scrambled to address personal protective equipment and testing shortages, President Donald Trump issued a presidential proclamation suspending entry of new immigrants, with the stated intention of mitigating the impact on job availability

and economic recovery. Since then, several groups of lawmakers have pushed for further restrictions on immigration such as suspending all skilled-worker visas for at least a year and halting all Chinese nationals receiving visas to do scientific research at the graduate or postgraduate level.

Last week, Trump signed an executive order extending previous immigration restrictions and barring issuance of several work visas, including the H-1B, H-2B and J-1 programs. But immigrant scholars on some of these visas are crucial drivers of scientific research. An end to these programs, or even a long pause, won't help job-seeking Americans for two main reasons. STEM jobs have long experienced labor shortages even at times of major unemployment, and welcoming immigrant scientists and engineers creates thousands of new jobs for U.S. workers.

Most foreign-born scientists are on H-1B or J-1 visas. While researchers on J-1s appear to be exempt at this time, researchers on H-1Bs are not. There is little to no evidence that ending such programs would create jobs for native-born workers, especially in the short run. Yet there is plenty of data showing that it would slow economic growth and job creation in the long run. A decision to curb highly skilled immigration programs would be shortsighted and likely harmful to the economic, intellectual, moral and public health of this country.

A nationwide study by the American

Enterprise Institute and New American Economy shows that for every 100 immigrants who come to the United States to earn their advanced STEM degree and stay to work here, 262 new jobs are created and filled by native-born workers. The benefits to U.S. workers don't come just from immigrants who are educated at U.S. institutions: The report also shows that adding 100 immigrants with advanced STEM degrees from foreign universities creates an additional 86 jobs for native-born workers. When you look at data strictly from H-1B visa recipients, adding 100 H-1B skilled temporary foreign workers adds an additional 183 jobs for the native-born. Adding 100 H-2B less-skilled nonagricultural workers produces 464 jobs for native-born workers. Another study from the National Foundation for American Policy reports that increasing H-1B visa holders by just 1% in an occupation reduces that field's unemployment rate by about 0.2% and increases wages in the profession.

Whichever way you slice it, immigrant scholars (including those on H-1B visas) create and do not "steal" U.S. jobs. And senior administration officials know this. Ending these visa programs will stunt the United States' long-term economic growth and set us on the path of abandoning our place as a leader in education, science and innovation on the world stage. There is little reason for implementing an immigration policy with such long-term impacts

based on short-term economic problems related to a pandemic.

But that's just the economic argument. Immigrants are valuable as people, regardless of their impact on U.S. science, and we should welcome the opportunity to enrich our communities with them. Perhaps one of the most troubling things about these policies is that they use the coronavirus pandemic as pretext for implementing anti-immigrant policies that the Trump administration has been seeking since Day One.

The way to emerge from a major economic and public health crisis shouldn't include rejecting scholars who are ready and willing to help. Science is better when we open our doors to curious minds from all over the world and harness their creativity, potential and ambition. The success of our scientific endeavor rests, in no small measure, on the dedication of exceptional immigrant researchers. This includes, by the way, discovering treatments for COVID-19.

We scholars tackle tough and complicated questions in our labs. Rather than adding more clouds of fear and uncertainty to the lives of immigrant scientists working here, we should encourage the United States should be supporting their work and embracing them with open arms.

Ubadah Sabbagh is a neuroscientist at the Fraunhofer Biomedical Research Institute at VTC, Virginia Tech, and an Early Career Policy Ambassador at the Society for Neuroscience.



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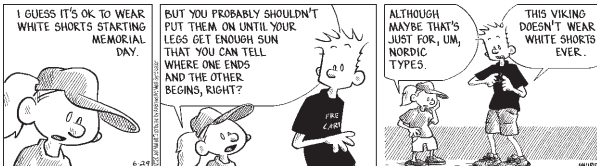
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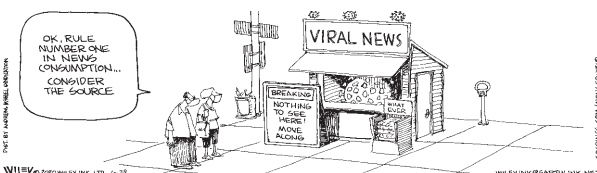
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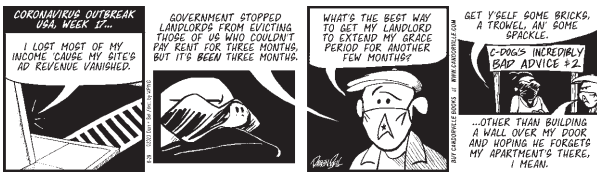
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



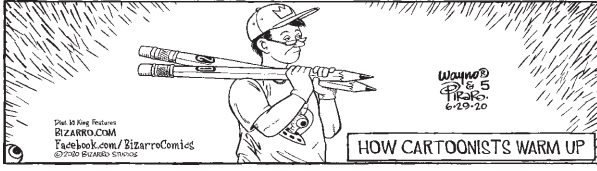
Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	
12				13						14			
15				16						17			
				18				19		20			
21	22	23						24					
25				26		27		28			29	30	
31				32		33		34		35			
36				37		38		39		40			
				41				42		43			
45	46							47					
48						49		50			51	52	53
54						55				56			
57						58				59			

### ACROSS

- 1 Venomous viper
- 4 Daub
- 9 Swab the deck
- 12 "Evita" role
- 13 Therefore
- 14 Get older
- 15 Fragrant flowers
- 17 Irish actor Stephen
- 18 Mouths (Lat.)
- 19 More spine-tingling
- 21 Golden Arches burger
- 24 Unforeseen problem
- 25 Mound stat
- 26 Last letter in London
- 28 Metal waste
- 31 Mend a sock
- 33 "Mayday!"

- 35 Writer Wiesel
- 36 "The — in sight"
- 38 Tiki bar necklace
- 40 Genetic stuff
- 41 "Zounds!"
- 43 Prolific inventor
- 45 Charlton Heston film
- 47 Fall from grace
- 48 Yale grad
- 49 Garden flowers
- 54 Carte lead-in
- 55 Arctic native

### DOWN

- 56 Humorist
- 57 — Moines
- 58 Varieties
- 59 Poem of praise
- 1 German cry
- 2 Bashful
- 3 Pod dweller
- 4 Australian
- 5 Threats
- 6 Tolkien creature
- 7 Liniment targets
- 8 Transmit again
- 9 Garden flowers
- 10 Curved molding
- 11 Bosc, for one
- 16 URL suffix
- 20 Exceptional
- 21 Eliot's "Adam —"
- 22 Persia, today

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

F	R	Y	P	I	E	R	M	B	A	S
L	E	A	E	C	R	U	S	E	E	L
I	L	L	N	I	T	S	L	O	O	T
P	O	L	I	C	E	E	S	C	O	R
S	I	R	I	A	N					
B	A	S	I	L	T	A	P	E	N	
L	A	O	S	D	I	N	E	A	R	P
T	H	Y	Y	O	M					
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B	E	R	M	U	D	A	S	H	O	R
A	L	E	E	L	I	T	I	A	R	T
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### 6-29

### CRYPTOQUIP

PHXX-AWVPV NEUTHCC PZV  
 LHENDH CAOXXHS NU DNAOWQ  
 TOEEVZHUOWQ LOXXONTSC  
 CZVUC: XHCXOH ENTVD.

**Saturday's Cryptoquip:** WHAT WOULD YOU CALL EXPENSES FOR A COMPANY PRODUCING BUBBLE GUM? THE COST OF CHEWING BUSINESS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals L

## NBA/MLB

# Round 2: League sets schedule for restart

By TIM REYNOLDS  
Associated Press

Zion Williamson is about to get another chance at opening night.

Injury kept him out of New Orleans' appearance in the first game of this NBA season when the Pelicans started the year at Toronto, but now the big-name rookie will be in position to be on center stage at Disney when play resumes — against the team that was the first to find itself in the middle of the NBA's coronavirus situation.

New Orleans will be in the first game of the resumed NBA season on July 30, taking on Utah at the Disney World complex near Orlando, Florida in the opener of a doubleheader. And just as the initial first night of this season-like none-other did, the second game of nationally televised twinnish will pit the Los Angeles Lakers against the Los Angeles Clippers.

The Jazz were a logical storyline for the first game back, after Utah's All-Star center Rudy Gobert was the first player in the league to test positive for the coronavirus — a development that forced the league to suspend the season on March 11. More than four and a half months will have passed between game nights in the NBA, but the league officially completed talks Friday with the National Basketball Players Association on the terms for restarting the season and therefore could release the 88-game slate of what are being called seeding games.

Finally, play will resume in a season that started with political strife between the NBA and China in October, the deaths of David Stern and Kobe Bryant in January, a pandemic breaking out in March and racial issues surrounding police brutality and inequality dividing the country.

## NBA restart schedule

**Thursday, July 30**  
Utah vs. New Orleans  
L.A. Clippers vs. L.A. Lakers

**Friday, July 31**  
Orlando vs. Brooklyn  
Memphis vs. Portland  
Phoenix vs. Washington  
Boston vs. Milwaukee  
Sacramento vs. San Antonio  
Houston vs. Dallas

**Saturday, Aug. 1**  
Miami vs. Denver  
Utah vs. Oklahoma City  
New Orleans vs. L.A. Clippers  
Philadelphia vs. Indianapolis  
L.A. Lakers vs. Toronto

**Sunday, Aug. 2**  
Washington vs. Brooklyn  
Portland vs. Boston  
San Antonio vs. Memphis  
Sacramento vs. Orlando  
Milwaukee vs. Houston  
Dallas vs. Phoenix

**Monday, Aug. 3**  
Toronto vs. Miami  
Denver vs. Oklahoma City  
Indianapolis vs. Washington  
Phoenix vs. New Orleans  
San Antonio vs. Philadelphia  
L.A. Lakers vs. Utah

**Tuesday, Aug. 4**  
Brooklyn vs. Milwaukee  
Dallas vs. Sacramento  
Phoenix vs. L.A. Clippers  
Orlando vs. Indianapolis  
Boston vs. Miami

Houston vs. Portland  
**Wednesday, Aug. 5**  
Memphis vs. Utah  
Philadelphia vs. Washington  
Denver vs. San Antonio  
Oklahoma City vs. L.A. Lakers  
Toronto vs. Orlando  
Brooklyn vs. Boston

**Thursday, Aug. 6**  
New Orleans vs. Sacramento  
Miami vs. Milwaukee  
Indianapolis vs. Phoenix  
L.A. Clippers vs. Dallas  
Portland vs. Denver  
L.A. Lakers vs. Houston

**Friday, Aug. 7**  
Utah vs. San Antonio  
Oklahoma City vs. Memphis  
Sacramento vs. Brooklyn  
Orlando vs. Philadelphia  
Washington vs. New Orleans  
Boston vs. Toronto

**Saturday, Aug. 8**  
L.A. Clippers vs. Portland  
Utah vs. Denver  
L.A. Lakers vs. Indianapolis  
Phoenix vs. Miami  
Milwaukee vs. Dallas

**Sunday, Aug. 9**  
Washington vs. Oklahoma City  
Memphis vs. Toronto  
San Antonio vs. New Orleans  
Orlando vs. Boston  
Philadelphia vs. Portland  
Oklahoma City vs. L.A. Clippers  
Brooklyn vs. L.A. Clippers

**Monday, Aug. 10**  
Oklahoma City vs. Phoenix  
Dallas vs. Utah  
Toronto vs. Milwaukee  
Indianapolis vs. Miami  
Denver vs. L.A. Lakers

**Tuesday, Aug. 11**  
Brooklyn vs. Orlando  
Houston vs. San Antonio  
Phoenix vs. Philadelphia  
Portland vs. Dallas  
Boston vs. Memphis  
New Orleans vs. Sacramento  
Milwaukee vs. Washington

**Wednesday, Aug. 12**  
Indianapolis vs. Houston  
Toronto vs. Philadelphia  
Miami vs. Oklahoma City  
L.A. Clippers vs. Denver

**Thursday, Aug. 13**  
Washington vs. Boston  
TBA  
Portland vs. Brooklyn  
TBA  
Sacramento vs. L.A. Lakers  
TBA  
Milwaukee vs. Memphis  
TBA  
New Orleans vs. Orlando  
TBA  
Dallas vs. Phoenix  
TBA  
San Antonio vs. Utah  
TBA

**Friday, Aug. 14**  
Philadelphia vs. Houston  
TBA  
Miami vs. Indianapolis  
TBA  
Oklahoma City vs. L.A. Clippers  
TBA  
Denver vs. Toronto  
TBA

## No payday for 11 who had advances larger than their MLB salary

By RONALD BLUM  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Grant Dayton will notice one glaring absence this season after he reports to the Atlanta Braves: his twice-a-month salary.

He is among 11 major leaguers whose prorated pay for the abbreviated 60-game season amounts to less than the \$286,500 advance already received by the 32-year-old left-hander.

"It's going to be weird not getting a paycheck," he said Friday, "but we already got paid."

Dayton gave up the \$5,776th and final home run of last season's record total, to the New York Mets' Dominic Smith. To resume preparation for the new season, he will drive Monday from his home in Winter Haven, Fla., to Atlanta with wife Cori, 2½-year-old son Decker and nearly 6-month-old Nolan. Braves' workouts at Trust Park.

After opening day was postponed because of the coronavirus pandemic, Major League Baseball and the players' association agreed March 26 to a deal that called for teams to advance \$170 million in salaries over the first 60 days of the season.

Others who won't get paychecks because of lower prorated salaries are Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Jimmy Nelson and New York Yankees reliever Jonathan Holder (\$277,778 each), Pittsburgh infielder Eric Gonzalez and Minnesota pitcher Matt Wisler (\$268,519 apiece), Philadelphia catcher Andrew Knapp (\$262,943), Chicago Cubs pitcher Jhael Cotton (\$237,037), pitchers

Collin McHugh of Boston, Ross Stripling of the Dodgers and Jesse Hahn of Kansas City (\$222,222) and Milwaukee pitcher Freddy Peralta (\$575,200).

"My first reaction was, wow, if we don't have any games this year, I'm going to get paid the same amount that Freddie Freeman's getting paid, so that's pretty cool," Dayton said in a reference to his teammate, a four-time All-Star first baseman with a \$22 million salary that was cut to about \$8.15 million. "I knew that there was going to be a point that if we resume games, I wouldn't get paid. And I was OK with that because we still received significant amounts of money and we're fine."

Each of the roughly 480 players with so-called "straight" contracts that call for a single salary received \$286,500. The 769 players with "split" contracts that have a lower salary in the minor leagues — generally a younger group not yet eligible for arbitration — got either \$16,500, \$30,000 or \$60,000, depending on their minor league pay level.

Dayton, who has spent parts of three seasons in the majors, has a \$655,000, one-year contract. His prorated salary for the short season will be \$242,593, assuming the contagion does not cause more games to be canceled.

The group won't have to return any cash because the March deal states "in the event there is a 2020 championship season, any amounts advanced to individual players that cannot be recouped by clubs via payroll deduction during the 2020 season for any reason shall be reimbursed to



JOHN RAOUX/AP

**Atlanta Braves pitcher Grant Dayton said he is excited to driving north for the resumption of training though he knows he will not be getting any more salary. He is among 11 players who received \$286,500 in advances that are higher than their prorated pay.**

clubs from the International Tax Fund at the conclusion of the 2020 season."

That tax fund is money collected from teams that exceeded their specified bonus pools to sign high-priced Latin American amateurs.

"We're blessed because we're getting more money than the prorated amount," Dayton said.

Most of the group has relatively low salaries for arbitration-eligible players because of injuries that sidelined them and reduced their statistics.

Nelson returned last June from shoulder surgery and was limited to three starts and seven relief appearances.

McHugh missed September and the postseason with a sore

right elbow and signed a deal with a \$600,000 salary and \$3.65 million in performance and roster bonuses.

Cotton, Dayton, Hahn and Stripling all were interrupted by elbow surgery early in their careers, and Gonzalez missed more than half of last season after breaking his collarbone.

Peralta has a low salary in 2020 as part of a \$15.5 million, five-year contract he agreed to in March.

Dayton was 0-1 with a 3.00 ERA in 14 relief appearances last year and is 1-3 with a 3.34 ERA in 68 big league games that included time with the Dodgers in 2016-17. He wonders how he will fare in arbitration next winter.

"It's going to be a weird year and a short season, but I guess they're going to have to treat it on paper like a real season, a championship season," he said. "And as far as contracts go in the future, they're going to have to take the stats this year, which is kind of scary for a relief pitcher, to be honest because you have one bad game, it takes a whole year to get that back. The slow starters can't be slow starters anymore."

Stripling, a financial adviser for B. Riley Wealth Management when he's not playing baseball, negotiated a \$2.1 million deal in January but was able to have \$1.5 million designated as a signing bonus, which is protected and not reduced. Only the \$600,000 specified as salary in the contract gets prorated.



## MLB/MMA/NFL



CARLOS OSORIO/AP

Yankees pitcher Gerrit Cole throws during a spring training game in March. Cole might make his Yankees debut on opening day against the Washington Nationals, the team he faced in the World Series.

## Source: Yanks vs. Nats in DC on opening day

BY BEN WALKER  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Gerrit Cole could make his New York Yankees debut in a tasty opening-day treat for fans, facing Juan Soto and World Series champion Washington at Nationals Park.

The Yankees and Nationals are set to meet when the virus-delayed season begins next month, a person familiar with the game told The Associated Press on Saturday. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because there hasn't been an official announcement. The New York Post first reported the matchup.

MLB will start a 60-game season on July 23 or 24. The schedule is still being worked out — there could be a game or two on the first day of play, or a full slate.

Cole started the previous game played at Nationals Park. He pitched the Houston Astros past the Nationals 7-1 last October for a 3-2 edge in the World Series.

The Nationals won the last two games to earn their first championship. Max Scherzer started Game 7 and fellow ace Stephen Strasburg was the World Series MVP, and either of them could start on opening day.

Cole signed a \$324 million,

nine-year contract with the Yankees as a free agent.

The Yankees and Nationals met twice in spring training, including New York's 6-3 win on March 12 on the final day before MLB stopped because of the virus outbreak.

Players will begin reporting to summer training camp on Wednesday — Gleyber Torres, DJ LeMahieu and their New York teammates will work out at Yankee Stadium while Trea Turner, Patrick Corbin and Washington will train at Nationals Park.

The Yankees are hopeful that slugger Aaron Judge has fully recovered from a rib injury that bothered him during spring training in Florida.

Longtime Nationals star Ryan Zimmerman wrote this week in a diary entry for The Associated Press that he's weighing his options with the virus looming.

"I'm still deciding whether to play," he said. "When it comes down to it, it's a decision not just for me, but for my family as well."

The schedule calls for clubs to play 10 games each against their four division opponents. There will be 20 interleague games, with MLB intending for East.

# Poirier wins decision over Hooker in UFC thriller

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Dustin Poirier won a thrilling unanimous decision over Dan Hooker on Saturday night, surviving a brutal second round and persevering to finish a well-rounded performance in the main event at the UFC's corporate gym.

Mike Perry also ended his two-fight skid with a one-sided unanimous decision over Mickey Gall in the penultimate fight of the UFC's fifth consecutive fan-free event in its hometown.

The main event was a barn-burner from the opening round, with both lightweights trading wicked strikes and displaying minimal regard for defense. The second round was a spectacle, with each fighter badly hurting the other while throwing punches and knees at full power.

The fight went to the ground in the fourth round, and Poirier attempted several submissions before Hooker escaped. Poirier appeared to have more energy left for the fifth round, and he won all three cards: 48-47, 48-47 and 48-46.

"It was a tough one," Poirier said. "Dan came to fight. He's a tough guy. He's on the rise. He really thought he was going to get past me. I trusted in my team, in my skill and my work ethic."

Poirier (26-6) capped his long rise by beating Max Holloway in April 2019 for the interim lightweight title. He lost the belt to unbeaten champion Khabib Nurmagomedov last September, and a leg injury subsequently kept him out of the cage for the longest stretch of his career.

He was back in fine form against Hooker (20-9), the tough kickboxing star from New Zealand who had won seven of his last eight bouts since 2016.

Perry had lost five of his last seven fights, and his wild mixed martial arts career took another swerve in recent months when he split with his wife, separated from his coaches and decided that his girlfriend, Latorya Gon-

**'He really thought he was going to get past me. I trusted in my team, in my skill and my work ethic.'**

Dustin Poirier

Winner in UFC's main event Saturday

zalez, would be the only person in his corner at this fight.

Gonzalez doesn't have an extensive combat sports background, and her corner work largely consisted of placing an ice bag on Perry's neck between rounds and saying: "You're doing great, baby." Perry used his superior striking skills and an impressive ground game to earn just his second win since July 2018.

"Every time we get in there, it's all up to me," said Perry, who plans to get new coaches before his next bout. "I trained for this. I'm a professional."

The show was the last of five weekend events at the UFC Apex gym on the promotion's corporate campus. The UFC has staged eight fan-free events amid the coronavirus pandemic since returning from an eight-week break.

The UFC will take next week off before resuming competition on July 12 at Yas Island in Abu Dhabi with UFC 251, a stacked pay-per-view show with three title fights. The promotion will hold four shows over 14 days at the so-called "Fight Island" before returning stateside.

This latest Vegas show was stacked with impressive finishes

and unusual results.

Heavyweight Maurice Greene stopped his two-fight skid with an unorthodox submission of Gian Villante, who was on top of Greene and apparently in control when Greene wrapped an arm around his head. Although Greene (9-4) didn't have a traditional chokehold around Villante's neck, an exhausted Villante was unable to move and tapped out with 1:16 left in the fight.

Japanese welterweight Takashi Satou produced one of the most impressive stoppages of the night, beating late replacement opponent Jason Witt with a flurry of strikes in just 48 seconds.

Julian Erosa, another late replacement opponent, won his fight on five days' notice by forcing Sean Woodson to tap out with a choke midway through the third round. Erosa was dropped from the UFC roster last year after three straight losses, but seized his last-minute chance to return.

A string of five consecutive finishes began with the second fight of the night. Kay Hansen, a 20-year-old strawweight making her UFC debut, beat Jinj Yu Frey in the third round with an armbar finish reminiscent of her hero, Ronda Rousey.

## Gase hopes Adams remains with Jets

BY DENNIS WASZAK JR.  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Adam Gase still absolutely envisions Jamal Adams as a member of the New York Jets this season.

Plain and simple.

That's despite the star safety's trade request, all of Adams' headline-grabbing social media posts — and the rumors and reports that have dominated the last several weeks of the offseason.

"Yes," Gase said Friday during a conference call, "I want Jamal on our team."

The 24-year-old Adams is in a contract standoff with the Jets that took its most uncertain turn last week when he asked the team to deal him. He also told a fan in a comment on Instagram that "maybe it's time to move on," and appeared to be saying

goodbye to friend and teammate Marcus Maye in another post.

While Adams appears to be closing the door on walking through the doors at the Jets' facility again, the team currently has no plans to trade him. Adams wants an extension, but he is under contract this season and next — and New York could potentially use the franchise tag on him in 2022. So, the Jets don't feel obligated to redo Adams' rookie deal right now.

And that has led to the friction between Adams and the team.

Gase was asked a few times about Adams during his 20-minute call with reporters, but the coach wouldn't discuss whether he has spoken directly to the two-time Pro Bowl selection or what the team's internal conversations have been like regarding the situation.

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# SOCCER/PROTESTS



Rick Bowmer/AP

Chicago's Zoe Morse, second from left, and Washington's Andi Sullivan, center, battle for position during the second half of an NWSL Challenge Cup match Saturday in Herriman, Utah.

## Courage, Spirit win openers

Associated Press

HERRIMAN, Utah — Rose Lavelle and Ashley Hatch each scored to give the Washington Spirit a 2-1 victory over the Chicago Red Stars in the National Women's Soccer League's Challenge Cup on Saturday night.

The NWSL became the first professional team sport in the United States to return amid coronavirus earlier in the day when the North Carolina Courage defeated the Portland Thorns 2-1 at Zions Bank Stadium. The Challenge Cup is being played without fans in attendance.

Most players knelt during the national anthem to protest racial inequity and there was an emotional moment when Julie Ertz put her arm around teammate Casey Short. All of the players also knelt for a moment of silence before kickoff.

Lavelle, who scored for the United States in the World Cup

final last summer in France, blasted a rebound goal in the eighth minute to give the Spirit the early lead.

Hatch added a second goal just seconds into the second half, challenging Chicago goalkeeper Alyssa Naether then breaking free for the goal.

"We've been training hard in D.C. and we were all kind of itching to get back to playing a game. For some people they haven't played since the end of last season. So we were definitely really excited and it was great to be back on there," Lavelle said.

Morgan Gautrat, known previously by her maiden name Brian, pulled a goal back for the Red Stars in the 51st minute.

"The game stopped so much after we scored, regardless if it was the referee letting subs in or somebody hurt. It just seemed like the game kept stopping so it was hard to find a rhythm," Chicago

coach Rory Dames said. "But it was good, there will be a lot of things to learn out of this. We said we were going to script the first three games, we kept with the script that we had tonight, and we'll continue on with that for the next two."

The NWSL's teams had opened preseason training camps but had not played any games when the league shut down on March 12.

The eight teams taking part in the Challenge Cup are sequestered in hotels for the duration of the monthlong tournament and must follow a strict protocol that includes frequent testing.

The league's ninth team, the Orlando Pride, was forced to withdraw earlier this week because of multiple positive COVID-19 tests among players and staff.

Red Stars are playing this season without Sam Kerr, who led the league last season with 18 goals and holds the league's career record.

## Scoreboard

### NWSL Challenge Cup

<b>At Herriman Utah Saturday, June 27</b>	
North Carolina Courage 2, Portland Thorns 1	Chicago Red Stars 1, Washington Spirit 2
<b>Tuesday, June 30</b>	
Houston Dash vs. Utah Royals	OL Reign vs. Sky Blue
<b>Wednesday, July 1</b>	
Portland Thorns vs. Chicago Red Stars	Washington Spirit vs. North Carolina Courage
<b>Saturday, July 4</b>	
Utah Royals vs. Sky Blue	Houston Dash vs. OL Reign
<b>Sunday, July 5</b>	
North Carolina Courage vs. Chicago Red Stars	Portland Thorns vs. Washington Spirit
<b>Wednesday, July 8</b>	
Utah Royals vs. OL Reign	Sky Blue vs. Houston Dash
<b>Sunday, July 12</b>	
Washington Spirit vs. Houston Dash	Chicago Red Stars vs. Utah Royals
<b>Monday, July 13</b>	
OL Reign vs. Portland Thorns	Sky Blue, North Carolina Courage
<b>Quarterfinals Friday, July 17</b>	
Teams TBD	<b>Saturday, July 18</b>
Teams TBD	<b>Seminifinals Wednesday, July 22</b>
Quarterfinal winners	<b>Championship Sunday, July 26</b>
Seminifinal winners	

# Carlos, athletes call for change to policy on protests

By EDDIE PELLIS  
Associated Press

DENVER — John Carlos wants to abolish the rule that bans protests at the Olympics.

The renowned Olympic protester has written a letter with an influential group of American athletes, calling on the IOC to put in place a new policy done in collaboration with athletes from across the globe.

Carlos and Tommie Smith raised their fists on the medals stand at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics to protest racial inequality in the United States. They were sent home for violating rules that ban such protests. Those rules remain in place today, though in the wake of global demonstrations against racial injustice, the IOC has recently expressed willingness to rethink them.

"Carlos and Smith risked everything to stand for human rights and what they believed in, and they continue to inspire generation after generation to do the same," the letter said. "It is time for the Olympic and Paralympic movement to honor their bravery rather than denounce their actions."

Carlos joined the leadership of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee's athlete advisory council in sending the open letter to the International Olympic and Paralympic committees on Saturday. The letter said the AAC had discussed the issue with the IOC's athlete commission.

This month, with protests stemming from the killing of George Floyd spreading across the U.S., IOC President Thomas Bach said the athletes group would "explore different ways" opinions could be

expressed during the Games — while still "respecting the Olympic spirit."

Rob Koehler, the director of the advocacy group Global Athlete, said "sport thinks they can operate under a separate rule of law. But they cannot. Athletes are working together as a collective because sport leaders have become too complacent."

Also this week, the head of the Caribbean Association of National Olympic Committees came out in favor of a redrafting of Rule 50, arguing the oft-cited IOC notation that sports should be free of politics is not realistic.

"Think of the laudable efforts regarding North and South Korea," Brian Lewis wrote. "Think of the alignment with the United Nations. Sport cannot, however, pick and choose only the political issues and campaigns it might like."

The USOPC came under a harsh spotlight, in part because it placed hammer thrower Gwen Berry on probation last summer after she raised her fist on the medals stand at the Pan American Games.

USOPC leaders have said they are trying to expand the conversation about racial justice, and are open to pressing for changes in Rule 50 — the IOC rule that bans protests on the medals stand and other inside-the-line venues at the games.

"Athletes will no longer be silenced," the letter said. "We are now at a crossroads. The IOC and IPC cannot continue on the path of punishing or removing athletes who speak up for what they believe in, especially when those beliefs exemplify the goals of Olympism."

## Kneel: With rule repealed, many players take knee prior to Challenge Cup games

FROM BACK PAGE

Thorns defender Becky Sauerbrunn said: "The [players' association] has been about collaborating with teams on what we can do to maintain and sustain the conversation around racial justice in this country."

"We made a strong statement and we wanted to kind of maintain that momentum that has been happening and to show official commitment to the cause," she added.

Megan Rapinoe, who plays for OL Reign but opted out of the Challenge Cup, was criticized when she knelt at an NWSL game and a pair of U.S. national team games in 2016. She said she wanted to express solidarity with former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick, who took a knee during the anthem to bring attention to racial inequity.

In response, U.S. Soccer adopted a rule that required players to stand. But that rule was repealed

earlier this month amid nationwide protests over the death of George Floyd and racial inequity.

Rapinoe voiced her support for the NWSL players Saturday on social media: "You love to see these women using their voice, demanding better for America, and for black people and people of color."

Spirit Coach Richie Burke joined his players in kneeling before the late game.

"I'm grateful for everything this country has given me, but I feel the need to support the Black Lives Matter movement because I know this privilege isn't the same for everyone. This is just the start. There is much more work to be done," Burke said.

Mewis said the teams will continue to call attention to racial injustice throughout the Challenge Cup.

"I think we want to keep this momentum and keep the attention on the Black Lives Matter movement throughout this tournament," she said.



TONT AVELAN/AP

John Carlos raises his fist as he speaks about his experience as a US Olympian in Mexico City in 1968. Carlos, who raised his fist on the medal stand in protest, co-authored a letter with an influential American athletes' group calling on the IOC to abolish the rule that bans protests at the Olympics



## SPORTS



**Plan of action**  
League releases 88-game  
slate for restart » **NBA, Page 20**

## PROTESTS

## Show of support



Players kneel during national anthem as  
NWSL opens Challenge Cup tournament

By ANNE M. PETERSON  
Associated Press

**P**layers for the Portland Thorns and the North Carolina Courage knelt during the national anthem Saturday when the National Women's Soccer League opened the Challenge Cup tournament in Utah.

The players and coaches wore Black Lives Matter T-shirts in warmups before the game, which was nationally televised on CBS. The players also knelt during a moment of silence before kickoff.

"We took a knee today to protest racial injustice, police brutality and systemic racism against Black people and people of color in America. We love our country and we have taken this opportunity to hold it to a higher standard. It is our duty to demand that the liberties and freedoms this nation

**"We love our country and we have taken this opportunity to hold it to a higher standard."**

**The Portland Thorns and North Carolina Courage**  
in a joint statement released before Saturday's Challenge Cup tournament opener in Utah

was founded upon are extended to everyone," the Thorns and Courage said in a joint statement released before the game.

The league confirmed the day before that it would play the national anthem before the Challenge Cup games and that it would support the players in whatever they chose to do.

During the late match between the Red Stars and the Washington Spirit a few players remained standing. There was a touching moment when Chicago's Julie Ertz consoled teammate Casey Short, who was overcome

by emotion.

The NWSL is the first professional team sport in the United States to return amid the coronavirus outbreak. The monthlong Challenge Cup is being played without fans at Zions Bank Stadium in Herriman, Utah.

"Today, hopefully, it was a powerful statement," Courage midfielder Samewis said after her team defeated the Thorns 2-1. "It was an emotional time and I hope that both teams' message comes through clearly."

**SEE KNEEL ON PAGE 23**

**Top:** North Carolina Courage and Portland Thorns FC players kneel in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement prior to the first round of the NWSL Challenge Cup in Herriman, Utah. **Left:** The Chicago Red Stars' Julie Ertz, left, embraces Casey Short as players kneel during the anthem before Saturday's match against the Washington Spirit.

ALEX GOODLETT, GETTY IMAGES/TNS, top, and RICK BOWMER/AP, left



**Poirier tops Hooker in thrilling main event » MMA, Page 21**

